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Sports, Page 1B

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VOLUME 30, NUMBER 94

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1999

FIFTY CENTS



Tim Stephenson photo

Rachel Parker reads over her letter with her teacher, Janice Dittman. Students from Neidringhaus wrote letters to GI's for the holidays.

Students write to soldiers overseas

650 from Niedringhaus participate in project

By Michael Heil
Staff writer

Students from Niedringhaus Elementary School have spent their time and energy the past two weeks writing thousands of comforting letters that will be sent to servicemen and women overseas to bring a little holiday cheer into their lives. Three boxes were mailed Friday to a clearinghouse in North Carolina, from where the letters will be distributed by Christmas.

"I though writing would be interesting, fun and educational for my students. It has caught on. Now the whole school participates."

Linda Mizell
Resource teacher

"The kids love what it's about. They write from their

hearts," said Linda Mizell, a school resource teacher and the project's coordinator. About 650 students participated in the project, called Military Mail of Our Troops, a national organization comprised of schools, individuals, churches and organizations involved in military letter writing. Mizell incorporated the project into her classroom in 1985 after reading about the military mail program in a teacher's magazine or newspaper. Since then, letter writing has become an institution at Niedringhaus, in that stu-

See STUDENTS, Page 7A

Venice School District to focus on tutoring

Officials hope for improvements on test scores

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Venice School District officials hope a heavy emphasis on tutoring programs and a more stable school year will lead to improvements in test scores.

A combination of a new standardized tests and poor morale because of turmoil at the high school resulted in a poorer performance by Venice High School students in standardized tests taken last year. Elementary School Principal Rachelle Artis and

High School Principal Annette Alexander-Chamberlain discussed the state report card with Board members at Thursday's meeting. In general, scores showed that children in early elementary grades performed

See VENICE, Page 8A

Gateway readies for changes

New infield tunnel, date for Motorola 300 planned

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

A major change in the Motorola 300 schedule and a new tunnel between the grandstand area and the infield are the big changes planned for Gateway International Raceway this year.

GIR General Manager Rod Wolter said the 1999 racing season was a "very good year" for the track, and they will continue to make

"It's not been Ibad because the river has been so low. Hopefully we'll have it done before the water table rises."

Rod Wolter
General manager

improvements. While the raceway did not

add a Winston Cup Series race this year, three of the four major races have already set dates and track officials expect the fourth to be announced very soon.

Work is also proceeding on a new infield tunnel, additional permanent restrooms and other facilities.

Physically, the biggest change for the coming year will be the elimination of the Firestone Bridge between turn four and the grandstand.

Instead, the tunnel will

See GATEWAY, Page 2A

Police seek two in robbery

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Police are looking for two suspects in an alleged armed robbery Friday afternoon in Venice. The two reportedly forced a man into his home at gunpoint, where they robbed and tied up the man with a telephone cord. According to reports, at about 2 p.m. police received

See POLICE, Page 7A

Chain of Rocks Bridge to close for season

Attraction to close down Nov. 28, open for eagle watching Jan. 18-23

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Area residents will have one more chance this weekend to take a walk on the Old Chain of Rocks Bridge before it closes for the season. The bridge will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday for a fund raiser. Sunday will be a "Fall Festival," including music, guided tours of the Riverfront Trail and other activities. The cost of admis-

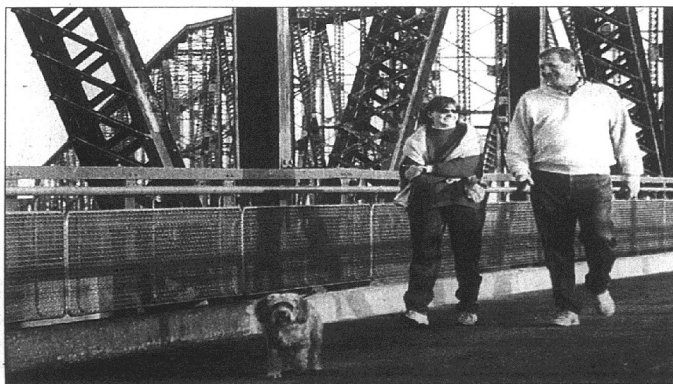
sion is 10 cans of nonperishable food or \$10, with proceeds benefiting local food banks.

The bridge, being renovated by Trailnet Inc., has been a very popular attraction over the summer.

About 1,000 people have walked or rode on the bridge each weekend through the summer and Trailnet Executive Director Ted Curtis said those numbers have doubled in the fall.

"It's picked up quite a bit with the incredible fall weather we've had out there," he said.

See CHAIN, Page A3



Albert Walker photo

Mike and Sara Austin walk their dog across the Old Chain of Rocks bridge last Saturday.

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Granite City Journal

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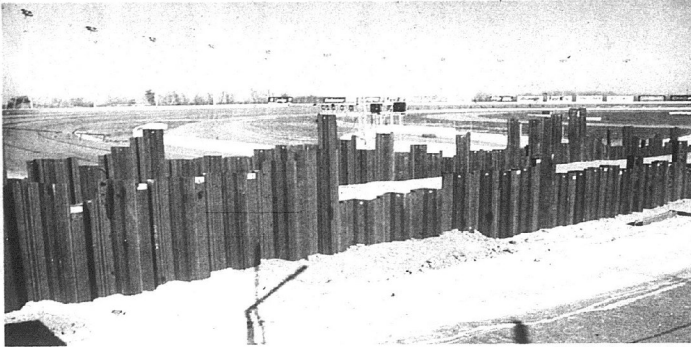
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News

Gateway International Raceway readies for changes



The new infield tunnel will connect to the west side of the track to make it easier to move vehicles during races.

Continued from Page 1A
connect the infield to the west side of the track.

Track officials have been considering a tunnel on the western or a bridge on the eastern side of the track to allow better movement of

people and vehicles, and finally decided on the tunnel after dealing with engineering obstacles, including a high water table.

Advantages include a more unobstructed view - considered very important because of plans to add additional seating along turns three and four - and the movement of vehicles between the infield and exterior of the track during races.

The bridge has already been demolished and work has begun on the tunnel.

"It's not been bad because the river has been so low," Wolter said. "It really lowered our water table, and we haven't had any rain."

Hopefully we'll have it done before the water table rises." The construction of the tunnel included taking out part of the track.

"We want to get it re-laid before the end of December and give it time to cure before the first major race, the Missouri-Dodge Dealers Ram Tough 200 May 6 and 7.

Wolter said the Motorola 300 will happen on a Sunday under the lights and would be the first CART race under lights.

There had been speculation that the CART race would be changed in part because of rumors that the Indy Racing League and CART would get back together. However, that fell through.

Wolter said one of the reasons to change the date was that fans could not make both the CART race and the Indy 500.

He said one of the reasons for switching it to a night race is that the Cubs and Cardinals will be playing at Busch Memorial Stadium that weekend.

Track officials had been hoping to land a Winston Cup Series race, the top flight of NASCAR racing, but were unsuccessful.

"We know we won't get one this year," Wolter said. "They just didn't make any changes this year."

He said they were hoping to be able to gain a Winston Cup date either next year or the year after.

Two issues that will have to be dealt with include seating and parking.

A minimum of 100,000 seats is needed to host a Winston Cup race and with the addition of seating in turns one and two, GIR has about 70,000 seats.

Parking remains a major issue. Wolter said they continue to find off-site parking and met last week to discuss the issue.

Plans for a major parking lot to the west remain on hold because of a court case involving the Southwestern Illinois Development Authority.

GIR manager named VP of construction

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Gateway International Raceway General Manager

MADISON Rod Wolter has been named

vice president of construction/development for three motor sports facilities owned by Dover Downs Entertainment Inc.

The tracks include GIR, Memphis Motorsports Park and the new Nashville Superspeedway.

Wolter said Wednesday that he would continue to spend most of his time at GIR.

"I've had a lot of personal satisfaction in helping develop Gateway International Raceway as a major motor sports venue, and I take a lot of pride in the job we have done here," he said. "Now I have been given the opportunity by Dover Downs to help two more of our facilities develop and grow and I'm excited with the challenge that it brings."

Wolter, 59, brought experience in both raceway management and construction to GIR in October 1995.

"Rod Wolter has been an invaluable asset to this organization in the successful development of

"With his experience and talent, we have asked him to take this position to help us grow our business in at three key venues, and he has enthusiastically accepted."

Ed Sutor
Executive vice president

Gateway," said Ed Sutor, executive vice president of Dover Downs. "He has the

unique ability to deal with the municipalities, building contractors and the labor force and get them all pulling in one direction."

"With his experience and talent, we have asked him to take this position to help us grow our business in at three key venues, and he has enthusiastically accepted."

Wolter started racing with his brother in Nebraska when he was 16 years old.

"I started drag racing in a '57 Chevy," he said. "After I got married, of course that kind of put a crimp in those kinds of activities for a while."

After his first wife died, Wolter remarried in 1977. Between the two of them, he and his wife Sandy - who also works for Gateway International Raceway - have seven children and 13

grandchildren. While raising his family, Wolter worked in construction and was able to do some circle track racing and work as a mechanic.

He went back to drag racing in 1981, and became interested in motor sports racetrack management in 1986 after the owner of a track in Scribner, Neb., lost his manager. Wolter had been working at a horse-racing track.

"He approached me and wanted to know if I would help him run it for a year," Wolter said. "I said 'OK, I'll do it for a year, but you keep looking for somebody.'"

"That went on for eight years, and he never did look for anybody," he added.

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Newsboys auction pulls in bidders

Going once, going twice ... With just the click of a mouse, area residents have a chance to make their bid and help local children's charities.

The Old Newsboys Day web site, which debuted Nov. 18, features an extensive auction of sports and media-related items. Proceeds from the auction will benefit the Old Newsboys Day fund for children's charities.

To participate in the auction, go to www.oldnewsboys.com and surf through 50 auction items. Then make your bids.

Some of the items proving most popular so far are:

• John Hancock
• Champions On Ice Package.

• Mark McGwire autographed scorecard from last year's season finale in which McGwire hit home runs 68 and 70.

• Backstreet Boys Old Newsboys Day Edition personally autographed by the group.

• Wehrenberg Theatres' movie tickets for a year.

• Riverport Amphitheater concert tickets.

Operating the auction is Primary Network, a St. Louis Internet service provider and an auction sponsor. Other sponsors include Edward Jones Co., Anheuser-Busch, GTE, Central States Coca-Cola, Emerson Electric and the Suburban Journals.

The bidding period for the first 25 items ends Dec. 2, with the period for the final 25 items ending Dec. 9.

Chain of Rocks Bridge to close down for season Nov. 28

Continued from Page 1A

The bridge will close for the season Nov. 28, but will be open for eagle-watching Jan. 18 through 23. During the week, it will be open for school children, then open to the public on the weekend. Curtis said they plan to begin phase two of the bridge's \$4 million renovation.

While the master plan for the second phase is still being worked on, it will include some structural work under the bridge, then amenities such as restrooms

"We'll probably plan for more things than we can possibly afford."

Ted Curtis
Trailnet executive director

and parking.

The museum, a recreation of the bridge's original toll booth, is planned for the Illinois side of the bridge and will include restrooms and

concessions.

The overall renovation is expected to continue for at least another two years.

"We'll probably plan for more things than we can possibly afford," Curtis said, adding that they continue to seek private donations and grants for more improvements.

He added that they are considering a restaurant on the Missouri side of the bridge and possibly a concession stand on the bridge.

Curtis said they expect to be open again on weekends next year, but are also looking at ways to expand the bridge's open hours.

Trailnet is also seeking funding for an expanded nature preserve on the Illinois side of the bridge.

Curtis said they expect to receive some funding from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Open Space Land Acquisition and Development Program and a Shell Oil settlement fund, but details are still being worked out.

The 600-acre park/preserve would include biking, hiking and equestrian trails.

The city of Madison is also working on developing the entire Chouteau Island area into a park.

Dollar-Help pays needy's heat bills

By Glen Sparks
Staff writer

It isn't cheap to fight the cold.

For Dollar-Help Inc., the bill this winter could exceed

METRO EAST
\$800,000. To encourage donations, Dollar-Help, affiliated with Laclede Gas Co., kicked off its 1999-2000 fund-raising campaign Friday at the 12th and Parkville Recreation Center, 1410 S. Tucker Blvd.

Elected officials and officials from Dollar-Help wore boxing gloves to promote this year's theme of "Knock out Old Man Winter: Be a Champion for Dollar-Help."

A non-profit energy assistance program, Dollar-Help keeps thousands of low-income residents warm in eastern Missouri during the winter.

Dennis Kelley, president of Dollar-Help, said he hopes the campaign can raise \$600,000. Dollar-Help already has allocated \$230,000 in heating grants to area social service and community action agencies. As of late last week it had just \$23,000 in its bank account now to help needy residents.

"Many of the area's low-income, older adults and families in need will soon be hit with some tough decisions to make in terms of life's necessities, including a home heating source," said

"Unfortunately, in the end, Old Man Winter packs a chilly and long-term punch"

Rabbi Susan Talve
Central Reform Congregation

Kelley, who also heads the energy assistance agency, EnergyCare, 2758 Wyoming St.

"Winter in St. Louis can be crafty, of course. One day it's 60 degrees. The next day, temperatures struggle to reach 20."

All those 70-degree days this November have been great, but also deceptive. One thing about winter here is certain. Putting it in boxing terms, Susan Talve, Congregation, 77 Maryland Plaza in St. Louis, said cold weather in St. Louis "bobs and weaves with low and moderate temperatures." "Unfortunately, in the end, Old Man Winter packs a chilly and long-term punch,"

said Talve, vice-president of Dollar-Help.

Dollar-Help pays heating bills to about 75 area energy suppliers through seven area social service and community action agencies.

It assists residents all over eastern Missouri, from St. Louis city to Butler, Franklin, Iron, Jefferson, Madison, St. Charles, St. Francois, St. Louis and Ste. Genevieve counties.

"The problem of a home heating source is not just an urban issue," said state Sen. Bill "Lacey" Clay Jr., D-north St. Louis, one of several elected officials at the ceremony. "It has become an unfortunate and chilly factor throughout the region."

During the 1998-99 winter season, the average grant given was \$265. In 60 percent of cases, an elderly or handicapped person or child under 5 years old was living in the house.

Clay said, "Kids who are warm, clothed and have good nutrition, are also quite productive in school."

To help, Laclede Gas customers can simply overpay their monthly gas bills by \$1 or call the utility at 621-6990 to have a specified amount added to their bills.

In St. Charles County, residents can give through the St. Charles Gas Company; Franklin County, Missouri Natural Gas and St. Charles Gas; Jefferson County, Missouri Natural Gas and Midwest Gas; St. Francois County, Missouri Natural Gas; Madison County, Missouri Natural Gas; Iron and Butler counties, Missouri Natural Gas.

"Reaching out this winter to help those who are searching for funds to restore their home heating source is still one of the best ways to show the real Judeo-Christian meaning of charity," said Rev. Earl Nance, treasurer of Dollar-Help and pastor of Greater Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, 1617 North Euclid Ave., in St. Louis.

Donations also can be mailed to Dollar-Help, Inc., c/o Cass Bank, P.O. Box 330, St. Louis, Mo. 63166.

Since it began in 1982, Dollar-Help has raised almost \$8 million and assisted more than 34,000 needy households.

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Support groups

Weekly

ALANON ADULT CHILDREN meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2100 Madison Ave., in the Ketteler Center Conference Room A. Call 463-2429 for more information.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. every Wednesday at 2116 Club 2116 Edison, Granite City. Call (800) 307-6600 for more information.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets at 8 p.m. Wednesday at St. Elizabeth School's Noah's Ark Day Care, Pontoon Road, Granite City. The meetings are closed except for the last Wednesday of the month.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday and noon and 8 p.m. Friday at 2116 Edison, Granite City. Call (800) 307-6600 for more information.

AL-ANON meets at 7 p.m. Thursday at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2100 Madison Ave., in the Ketteler Center Day Care Center room C. Call 463-2429 for information.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets at 6 p.m. Thursday at Mitchell Presbyterian Church, East Chain of Rocks Road and Greenway Drive. Call (800) 307-6600 for more information.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets at 8 p.m. Saturday at 2116 Club, 2116 Edison, Granite City. Call (800) 307-6600 for more information.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP at Eden Village Nursing Home in Edwardsville meets at 7 p.m. Thursday. There is no fee or reservations required.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES offers individual, marriage and family counseling Thursdays at Our Lord's Lutheran Church, 150 Wilma Drive, Collinsville. To schedule an appointment, call 344-8049.

MANIC DEPRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

ATION OF MADISON COUNTY meets from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in the Miloski Room located in the basement. For more information, call the DMCA office at (314) 776-3969.

DIVORCED AND SEPARATED SUPPORT GROUP, sponsored by the Eden United Church of Christ and Holyton Youth and Family Services' Family Care Program in Edwardsville, meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday. All divorced or separated persons are welcome. Call 858-9268 Monday through Friday for more information. There is no fee but donations are accepted.

PULMONARY SUPPORT GROUP, for persons with diagnosed lung condition meets at 10:15 a.m. Monday in the Wellness Center at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. For more information, call 798-3019.

RECOVERING FROM THE LOSSES OF LIFE meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the First Baptist Church of Maryville, 2184 Vadalabene Drive, behind Anderson Hospital. The group provides encouragement and practical guidance for anyone who has lost a loved one through death or who has experienced other profound losses.

STEMSS (Support Together for Emotional and Mental Serenity and Solvency), a support group for people with a mental illness and an alcohol or substance abuse problem.

tem, meets at 1:30 p.m. Friday at Pascal Hall in St. Elizabeth Medical Center. Call 798-3604 for more information.

Bi-monthly

HEREDITARY ATAXIA SUPPORT GROUP meets the second and fourth Friday of each month. Ataxia is a disorder of nerve cells in the spinal cord and cerebellum. Call Curt Williams at 877-5172 for more information.

Miscellaneous

ALTERNATIVES COUNSELING offers a supportive and educational group to the woman whose husband or romantic partner has sexually abused her child. For more information, contact Donya L. Adkinson at 656-5104.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS meets in the area at the following times and locations:

Thursday ... Building a Foundation starts at 8 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in the Miloski Room.

Friday ... Friday Night Group meets at 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Ketteler Center A.

Saturday ... Acceptance starts at 8 p.m. in Pascal Hall at SEMC.

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ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH, 2001 St. Clair, has traditional services at 8:30 a.m. with Sunday School and Adult Bible Class at 9:30 a.m. A contemporary service has been added at 11 a.m. Crossroads services at 6 p.m. Saturday evenings are still offered.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST, 2560 Delmar, invites the public to join them in observance of the last Thanksgiving of the Century at 10 a.m. Thanksgiving morning for hymns, prayers and expressions of gratitude to God.

CHURCH has worship services at 8 and 10:45 a.m. Sunday. Nursery is available for infant to 3-years-old.

Coffee time is at 9 a.m. and Bible Study is at 9:30 a.m. Preschool worship and the Children's Church (first through fourth grades) is at 10:45 a.m. Join us at 10:45 a.m. Sunday for "Sons of the Father" in concert. Revival time is at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday followed by Adult Choir practice at 7:45 p.m.

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Calendar

Weekly

EAGLE PARK ACRE SENIORS OF MADISON meet from 10 a.m. to noon Thursday at 100 Hill St. (rear), Eagle Park Acres, Madison.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PINOCHLE CLUB for seniors 55 and over meets at 12:30 p.m. Friday at the Harold Brown Building, Franklin Avenue and Pontoon Road. Call 877-6350 for more information.

GRANITE CITY COMMUNITY BAND rehearsals are scheduled from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Thursday at St. John United Church of Christ, 2901 Nameoki Road, Granite City. For information, call 931-0443.

JOLLY QUILTERS meet from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday at the Social Center, 906 Thorngate Drive, Mitchell.

GRANITE CITY TOWNSHIP HALL NUTRITION SITE, 2060 Delmar, serves meals daily at 11:50 a.m. Monday through Friday. Reservations should be made a day in advance by calling 877-4573. Donations are accepted.

TOPS 2363 meets at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at Anchorage Recreation Center, 2909 Edwards St. For more information, call Bobbie at 452-0273.

Monthly

CHOUTEAU TOWNSHIP SENIOR CITIZENS meet Thursday at the Social Center, 906 Thorngate Drive, Mitchell. Potluck begins at 6 p.m.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED meets at 10 a.m. Thursday at Nameoki Methodist Church, 1900 Nameoki Road, Granite City.

THE METRO EAST HOME CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION meets from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday at Our Lord's

Lutheran Church in Maryville, Illinois 159 at Interstate 55/70. Parents, licensed and unlicensed childcare providers are welcome. For more information, call Marilyn Clasen at 656-0144, Phyllis Bishop at 667-2427 or Carol Herschen at 488-7956.

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA Life Insurance Society meets at 5 p.m. Thursday at Ravenell's Restaurant, 3 American Village Shopping Center.

PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS, Madison County Chapter 188, meets the fourth Thursday of each month at Nameoki United Methodist Church, 1900 Pontoon Road in Granite City. For more information, call Everett Sprouls at 931-0157.

Miscellaneous

THE MIDWESTERN UNITED STATES IMPERIAL DANCE CLUB has regular dance meetings twice each month starting at 6 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Collinsville. The public is invited for dance lessons and open dancing at a cost of \$4 for non-members and \$2 for members. For more information, call 463-2405.

THE SINGLES CONNECTION has scheduled the following activities: Friday - B and B Singles dance at Belle Hall in Belleville. It is open to the public. The cost is \$5. Meet there at 8:30 p.m.

URBAN LEAGUE of Madison County offers the following programs at the UL Health Care Services, 500 Madison Ave., Madison. For more information, call 452-5394.

Family planning services from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday.

Obituaries

Mary Baggett

MARY A. (DURDIN) BAGGETT, 74, of Granite City, died at 11:35 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 18, 1999, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

She was born March 7, 1925, in Camden, Tenn. Mrs. Baggett was a member of Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 432 and Rebekah's Lodge.

She is survived by her husband, William Baggett; two sons, James Baggett of Branchville, N.J., and Jerry Baggett of Granite City; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, George and Bonnie (Corbett) Durdin; a brother and two sisters.

Funeral services were Tuesday at Stockdale-Milan Funeral Home in Camden, Tenn. Burial was in Liberty Cemetery.

Irwin Chapel in Granite City handled the local arrangements. Memorials may be made to the Kidney Foundation.

Brian Hogan

BRIAN E. HOGAN, 50, formerly of East St. Louis, died Friday, Nov. 19, 1999, at Shady Oaks Residential Center in Park Hills, Mo.

He was born Aug. 4, 1949, in East St. Louis. Mr. Hogan was a U.S. Army veteran.

He is survived by his mother, May (Stacey) Hogan of Carbondale; two sons, Arthur Barron of Belleville and Christopher Barron of Palo Alto, Calif.; four brothers, Ronald Hogan of Belleville, Dennis Hogan of Granite City, Raymond Hogan of Anna and Michael Hogan of Ridge Crest, Calif.; a sister, Ann Cotter of

Murphysboro and a granddaughter, Tyler Barron of Belleville.

He was preceded in death by his father, Raymond F. Hogan and an infant sister, Ann Marie Hogan.

Funeral services were Monday at St. Peter's Cathedral in Belleville with the Rev. James Buerster officiating. Burial was in Mt. Carmel Catholic Cemetery in Belleville.

John Barnes Funeral Home in Belleville handled the arrangements.

Memorials may be made to Mercy Hospice of Missouri.

William Lee

WILLIAM T. LEE, 86, of Benton Harbor, Mich., died at 2:38 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, 1999, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

He was born Sept. 4, 1913, in Chicago, Mo. Lee was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II. He worked for A and R Pipe Line as a land agent. He was a member of Power Squadron in St. Joseph, Mich., and St. Joseph Yacht Club.

He is survived by a daughter, Marjorie Crockarell of Granite City; a son, Jeff Lee of Collinsville; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Rozella (Barry) Lee; his parents, Frank and Jesse (Taylor) Lee and a brother, Robert Lee.

Memorial services were Monday at Irwin Chapel in Granite City with the Rev. Zarnikus officiating.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association or the American Diabetes Association.

C. Kent Morris

C. KENT MORRIS, 82, of Granite City, died at 7:21 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 20, 1999, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

He was born June 28, 1937, in East St. Louis. Mr. Morris was a mathematics teacher at Landsdown Junior High School in East St. Louis.

He is survived by his mother, Harriet (Jennings) Morris and a sister, Janet Stockenberg.

He was preceded in death by his father, Virgil Morris.

Funeral services were Tuesday at Irwin Chapel in Granite City with the Rev. Gary Motta officiating. Burial was in Mt. Hope Cemetery in Belleville.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Wanda Sulic

WANDA (SHIMBOFF) SULIC,

64, of Madison, died at 1:31 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, 1999, at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis.

She was born Feb. 5, 1935, in Madison. Mrs. Sulic was a homemaker. She was a member of St. Mark's Catholic Church in Venice.

She is survived by four children, Theresa Holland of Madison and Kathryn Lindsey, Michael Sulic Jr. and Earl Sulic, all of Granite City; a brother, Chris Shimboff of Effingham; 16 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Michael Sulic; her parents, Oscar and Leona Shimboff and two brothers, George and Theodore Shimboff.

Funeral services were Friday at Thomas Memorial Mortuary in Granite City with the Rev. Chris Shimboff officiating. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery in Edwardsville.



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Students write to soldiers

Continued from Page 1A

dents have spent hundreds of hours writing about 35,000 letters the past 14 years.

"I thought writing would be interesting, fun and educational for my students," Mizell said. "It has caught on. Now the whole school

participates."

Corinna Lasiter, a witty 11-year-old, wrote her letter last week. She said it was comprised of several questions she thought would bring about a few smiles.

"I asked him about his hobbies and thanked him for protecting us," Lasiter said. "I think they are all brave men and women."

Eleven-year-old Keeley Snelson, who wrote a handful of letters, said she thought

"I think it makes them happier until they can get home. I think it's the right thing to do and more students should do it."

Keeley Snelson
Student

writing was important because military personnel miss their families during the holidays.

"I think it makes them happier until they can get home," Snelson said. "I think it's the right thing to do and more students should do it." Many servicemen and women have responded over

the years, Mizell said, sending students pins, hats and shirts representing ships they are stationed on or military equipment they are associated with. In 1998, Amy Steen, then a sixth-grader, received more than a hat or shirt when the Marine she wrote visited her at Neidringhaus.

"She was excited," Mizell said. "She had no idea she would see her pen pal in person."

Since being involved in the military mail program, Neidringhaus has been among the top five elementary schools nationwide in the number of letters written. Last year's total was 2,375. This year's total will be about the same.

Because of her coordinating efforts, the Daughters of the American Revolution honored Mizell. Mizell said she appreciated the honor and the dedication and commitment the students put forth to make the project a school success.

Police seek two robbery suspects

Continued from Page 1A

a report of a burglary in the 700 block of Third Street. When police arrived, the victim told them he had been robbed at gunpoint.

The man said he had been in his yard cleaning when two men came up from behind his truck and surprised him. One of the men was reportedly armed with a single-barrel shotgun, the other with a knife.

The two forced the man into his house, where they tied him up. They took the victim's wallet, which contained about \$160 to \$170 in cash, some personal items and a shotgun from the closet.

The two then fled in a

1985 or 1986 black four-door Plymouth sedan.

The victim said he had noticed the car and two men in the neighborhood earlier in the day.

The first suspect was described as a dark-skinned black male in his mid-20s, 5-foot-10 or 5-foot-11, weighing about 170 to 180 pounds, wearing a dark cap, dark jacket and blue jeans. He was armed with a shotgun.

The second suspect was described as a medium-skinned black male in his late teens, 5-foot-4 or 5-foot-5, 160 to 170 pounds, wearing a gray shirt and light-colored tan pants. He was carrying a knife.

Anyone with information, should call the Venice Police Department at 877-2114.

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Grades K - 2nd
Emily Woodson 1st Place, Megan Seiber 2nd Place and Erica Hay 3rd Place



Grades 3rd - 4th
Amanda Neal 1st Place, Jennifer Bone 2nd Place, Eric Brooks 3rd Place (not pictured)



Grades 5th - 7th
Brian Hay 1st Place, Jake Courtney, 2nd Place and Adam Heli 3rd Place

Venice School District to focus on tutoring

Continued from Page 1A

below state averages, improved through eighth grade, then dropped dramatically in high school. Because of the change in tests, comparisons cannot be fairly made with previous years.

In the past, the district performed below state averages, but is saddled with a poverty rate more than twice the state average.

Poverty is considered a major factor in student performance.

Data in the report cards is based on standardized tests taken in February. Students are tested in reading, math, writing, science and social studies.

This year the state switched tests from the Illinois Goal Assessment Program to the Illinois Standards Achievement Tests for reading, math and writing. Because of that, in most cases no direct comparisons can be made to previous years.

Under IGAP, students were classified as not meeting, meeting, or exceeding state standards. Under ISAT, students are scored in four categories: Level 1 - academic warning, meaning that students' work shows "an inconsistent command of the basic knowledge and skills" in a particular area; Level 2 - below standards, which means the student has basic knowledge of an area, but has some gaps in their learning; Level 3 - meets standards and Level 4 - exceeds standards.

In third grade reading, 82 percent of the district's students were rated as either

academic warning or below standards, with 19 percent meeting standards. In fifth grade, 87 percent of the district's students did not meet state standards, but the percentage of those in the academic warning level dropped to 9 percent from 30 percent.

By eighth grade, only 48 percent of the district's students were below state standards and only 5 percent were at the academic warning level.

In 10th grade, 83 percent of students were performing below state averages with 21 percent in the academic warning level.

Mathematics, writing and science show similar results with improvements through the elementary level - especially in moving students from academic warning to does not meet categories in math and writing, but then the numbers dip in 10th grade.

Two bright spots were social studies scores and composite ACT tests.

IGAP scores showed that in fourth grade, 78 percent of the students fell into the does not meet category. By seventh grade, that figure drops to 28 percent and by 11th grade to 23 percent.

Venice High School students taking the ACT scored a composite of about 22, up from around 15 last year. However, the number of students taking the test dropped because of a decrease in enrollment of nonresident students.

"Basically we knew that with it being a new test scores were going to be lower than the norm," Alexander-Chamberlain said. The switch to ISAT

"I'm hopeful that the scores for the 1999-2000 school year will improve."

Annette Alexander-Chamberlain
High School Principal

caused lower test scores throughout the state, one of the reasons the Illinois State Board of Education did not publicize the scores as much.

"Over all the school climate was extremely low last year," she said. "I think that played a very big part in the scores plummeting."

Because much of the controversy was centered at the high school level, she said it affected them more than elementary students.

She also noted that the controversies heated up at the time the students were taking the tests in February.

Before this year, she said students had shown "substantial" improvements in test scores over a three-year period. To improve scores, she said the school would be participating in the district's after school tutoring program, which is funded by a grant by the Urban League.

She also said SUE faculty members are going to come in and work with students and they are working on a tutoring program that would use students at Greenville College.

Alexander-Chamberlain also said they are hoping to expand the tutoring programs to before school. At Thursday's meeting,

she said many of the students have to work after school and in many cases the families rely on that income. Alexander-Chamberlain said she hopes the combination of the tutoring programs and a more stable school

environment will give the students a better education and better test results. "I see positive growth," she said. "It's an area where we're going to have to rethink some strategies."

"I really believe that our

kids are capable of performing much better academically than they did on the test scores last year," she said. "I'm hopeful that the scores for the 1999-2000 school year will improve."

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The rest

A complete list of area's top runners
Page B4

Sports

www.yourjournal.com

By the numbers
Schedules for several upcoming sporting events
Inside

Another Kirgan joins cause for Warriors

Father takes helm as son shoots for state title

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

While changes are afoot, much remains the same for the grapplers at Granite City.

PREP WRESTLING
The Warriors have a new coach, Allen Kirgan, who coached the varsity team at Collinsville last year.

And Kirgan gets a bonus in his initial campaign. His son, senior George Kirgan, finished third in the IHSA individual state tournament (160 pounds) last year as a junior.

"George will start the season at 171 pounds," Kirgan said. "I don't know if he will go down in weight or not. He has been fin-

ishing practice at around 173 or 174 pounds. He has worked very hard. He is going to be tough to beat."

Junior Bobby Grammer will return at 169 pounds. "Bobby Grammer has looked real tough," Kirgan said. "If he continues to work as hard as he has, Bobby could be a surprise at the state tournament."

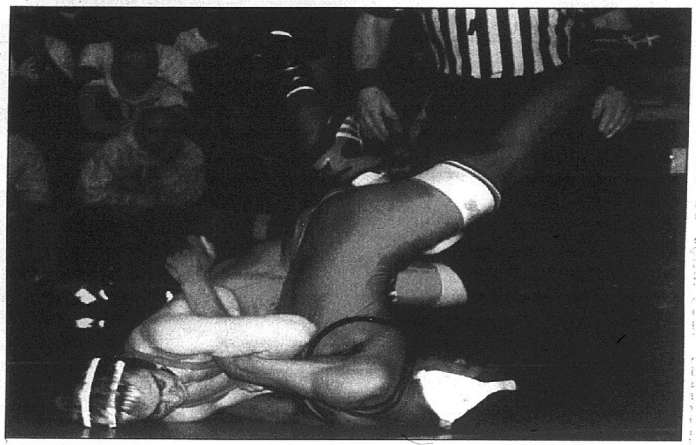
Steve Peach and Jake Trtanj were in the two smallest weight classes last year, and both made it to the individual state tournament. This year, each of the juniors shifts up a level.

"Both were a match away from placing last year," Kirgan said. "To have already been there before is a big thing. That experience is something that you can't buy."

"Steve has put on some muscle. He will start out at 112 pounds, but he is talking about getting down to 103 by the Holiday Tournament. Jake is at 119, and I anticipate him staying there."

The Warriors will have to replace the graduated Brooks Narvaez at 153 pounds. For right now, Willie Clark earns the spot. "Willie is a sophomore," Kirgan said. "He wrestled varsity a little last year, three or four matches. He isn't really tested, but he is in the room with some good workout partners, and he is working hard."

Last year's freshmen sensations, Tommy Tedesco (130 pounds), Jim Treaskie (145



Tim Stephenson photo

See KIRGAN, Page B3.....sophomore. Granite City's Jake Trtanj (bottom) qualified for the individual state tournament last year as a

Warriors win two in a row

Granite City ends slow start

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Granite City got off to a slow start, losing the first three

GIRLS BASKETBALL
games of the season in the Alton

Preseason Tournament. But the Warriors got on the winning track Friday, beating Bethalto Civic Memorial 52-42.

The Warriors got 21 points from Jessica Wallace and great defense from everybody to earn the victory.

"We didn't play too bad," Granite City coach John Moad said. "It was 25-25 at halftime. We pressed the whole game and wore them down in the second half. We go nine or 10 deep, and we can wear teams down, and that's what we did on Friday."

On Saturday, Granite made it

two in a row by giving a poor performance but winning by the biggest margin. The Warriors beat Waterloo 45-22.

"We only shot about 30 percent," Moad said. "We had open shots, and we played well. We just couldn't get the ball to fall."

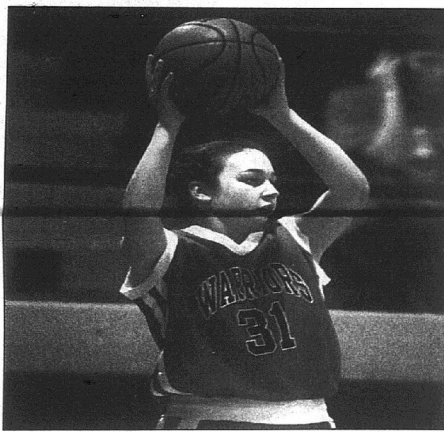
Center Sarah Luehmann was the big difference in the game, as she scored 11 points and grabbed 11 rebounds.

"Sarah Luehmann carried us," Moad said. "She was a force inside. We were looking to give her the ball more than we had been. She was just a force on the boards."

After the rough start to the season, the young team's butterflies have vanished.

"I think we settled down these last two games," Moad said. "We could have easily been 4-1."

See GRANITE, Page B3



Tim Stephenson photo

Granite City's Jessica Wallace scored 21 points in the first victory of the year for the Warriors, a 52-42 win against Bethalto Civic Memorial on Friday.

Phillip netted great career

Granite City native takes his place among area sports heroes

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

On Nov. 15, the best and brightest sports heroes of the 20th Century gathered at the Fox Theater for the First Century of St. Louis Sports Celebration.

Right in the midst of the honorees was Granite City native Andy Phillip, a veteran of World War II and a 1961 inductee into the National Basketball Hall of Fame.

"I thought it was just a great red-carpet treatment," Phillip said. "It was a thrill to be honored and be part of the

local celebration. It was just a memorable occasion for me, especially when you get up in my age bracket."

"I got to see Stan Musial, who I knew but haven't seen in 53 years, and some of the basketball players I played with, like Bob Pettit and Ed Macauley. It was a great honor and great fun. They treated us like royalty."

Phillip's list of accomplishments is as impressive as any other athlete at the event. At the age of 14, Phillip signed a professional baseball contract with the St. Louis Cardinals organization. But his work in hoops was still ahead.

See PHILLIP, Page B3

Bratten, Chester garner top fall running honors

Edwardsville senior made clean sweep in invitationals

By Brian Bretsch
Staff writer

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY
Edwardsville High senior Andy Bratten was such a dominating force during the boys cross country season this fall that the real race for the other runners was for second place.

Bratten won all eight Metro East invitationals in which he competed.

He set the tone in the season-opening Granite City Invitational when he blistered the course 15 minutes 22 seconds.

Bratten followed that with victories at the 16-team Edwardsville Tiger Classic and the 22-team Florissant (Mo.) McCluer North Invitational.

At the Hancock Invitational in Jefferson Barracks Park in south St. Louis County, he finished third in a field that drew some of the top

See BRATTEN, Page B4

Sophomore finished 21st at IHSA Class AA state meet

By Brian Bretsch
Staff writer

"The sky is the limit" for East St. Louis High sophomore Shontia Chester, according to Nino

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
Fennoy. And Fennoy, the coach of the East St. Louis girls cross country team, knows a thing

two about talented runners. Chester showed her talent this fall at her young

age and was selected the Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year for the Journal Newspapers of Southern Illinois in voting done by Metro East coaches.

Chester saved her best individual performance of the season when it counted the most, finishing 21st at the IHSA Class AA state meet at Detweiler Park in Peoria. By finishing in the top 25, Chester earned all-state honors.

See CHESTER, Page B4

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FEB. 29	vs. PHILADELPHIA FLYERS
MAR. 7	vs. PHOENIX COYOTES

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Sports

Girls hoops

Taylorville Tournament
Friday's Game

Collinsville 46, Nokomis 35				
Collinsville	FG	3FG	FT	Pts
Nokomis	13	12	8	46
	3	10	9	35

Collinsville FG 3FG FT Pts				
Collinsville	9	0	3	21
Nokomis	1	1	3	8
Rachel Stabenfeldt	0	0	0	0
Deanna Trost	0	0	0	0
Angie Parker	0	0	0	0
Katie Viefel	0	0	0	0
Stacy Deluca	0	0	0	0
Alicia Wilemko	0	0	0	0
Amara Kirksey	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	9	3	19	46

Rebounds - Collinsville 26 (Lofus 11),
Assists - Collinsville 8 (Deluca 6), Steals -
Blocks - Collinsville 2 (Lofus 2).

Saturday's Games

Collinsville 44, Taylorville 36				
Collinsville	FG	3FG	FT	Pts
Taylorville	13	15	8	44
	8	12	9	36

Collinsville FG 3FG FT Pts				
Collinsville	10	0	2	22
Taylorville	1	1	0	5
Angie Parker	0	0	0	0
Katie Viefel	0	0	0	0
Stacy Deluca	0	0	0	0
Rachel Stabenfeldt	0	0	0	0
Deanna Trost	0	0	0	0
Alicia Wilemko	0	0	0	0
Amara Kirksey	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	10	2	9	36

Rebounds - Collinsville 27 (Lofus 13),
Assists - Collinsville 13 (Lofus 5),
Steals - Collinsville 6 (Stabenfeldt 3),
Blocks - Collinsville 5 (Lofus 3).

Collinsville 38, Gillespie 36

Collinsville FG 3FG FT Pts				
Collinsville	15	6	13	49
Gillespie	15	9	6	36

Collinsville FG 3FG FT Pts				
Collinsville	9	0	0	17
Gillespie	1	1	0	4
Rachel Stabenfeldt	0	0	0	0
Deanna Trost	0	0	0	0
Angie Parker	0	0	0	0
Katie Viefel	0	0	0	0
Stacy Deluca	0	0	0	0
Alicia Wilemko	0	0	0	0
Amara Kirksey	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	15	2	3	39

Rebounds - Collinsville 18 (Lofus 5),
Assists - Collinsville 12 (Viefel 5),
Steals - Collinsville 7 (Stabenfeldt 2, Parker 2),
Blocks - Collinsville 5 (Lofus 3).

Non-Conference
Saturday's Games

Peoria Manual 52, East St. Louis 43				
Peoria Manual	FG	3FG	FT	Pts
East St. Louis	6	15	12	43
	12	14	13	52

East St. Louis FG 3FG FT Pts				
East St. Louis	5	4	22	33
Peoria Manual	1	0	0	2
Divis	0	0	0	0
King	0	0	0	0
Hammerstein	0	0	0	0
Clark	0	0	0	0
Brown	0	0	0	0
Bowden	0	0	0	0
Butler	0	0	0	0
Amerson	0	0	0	0
Smith	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	16	0	11	43

Rebounds - East St. Louis 43 (Dew 12),
Assists - East St. Louis 9 (King 4), Steals -
East St. Louis 6 (King 5).

Aton Tournament
Friday's Game

Granite City 61, Civic Memorial 41				
Granite City	FG	3FG	FT	Pts
Civic Memorial	7	18	11	41
	1	0	0	0

Civic Memorial FG 3FG FT Pts				
Civic Memorial	2	0	2	12
Granite City	0	0	0	0
Andrew Williams	0	0	0	0
Cassey Law	0	0	0	0
Jessica Schlemmer	0	0	0	0
Ashley Babcock	0	0	0	0
Misty Bednar	0	0	0	0
Kyrene Voyles	0	0	0	0
Megan Evers	0	0	0	0
Meghan Murbarger	0	0	0	0
Jamie Parnidge	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	9	1	20	41

Rebounds - Granite City 26 (Luehmann 8),
Assists - Granite City 11 (Wallace 3),
Steals - Granite City 5 (Mitchell 2).

Boys basketball

Gibault-Waterloo
Thanksgiving Tournament

Nov. 26				
Gibault	6:30 p.m.	Waterloo	vs. Belleville	
Alton	6 p.m.	Gibault	vs. Murphysboro	
Nov. 27				
12 p.m.	Alton	vs. Gibault		
1:30 p.m.	Waterloo	vs. Murphysboro		
7 p.m.	Murphysboro	vs. Alton		
8:30 p.m.	Gibault	vs. Waterloo		

Alton Tip-Off Classic

Nov. 22				
Granite City	vs. Centralia	8:15 p.m.		
Alton	vs. Cahokia	8 p.m.		

Nov. 24				
Cahokia	vs. Oakville	6:15 p.m.		
Alton	vs. Granite City	8 p.m.		
Nov. 25				
Cahokia	vs. Centralia	6:15 p.m.		
Oakville	vs. Alton	8 p.m.		
Nov. 27				
Granite City	vs. Cahokia	12:15 p.m.		
Centralia	vs. Oakville	2 p.m.		
Oakville	vs. Granite City	6:15 p.m.		
Alton	vs. Centralia	8 p.m.		

Belleville West/O'Fallon
Boys Basketball Tournament

Nov. 23				
Belleville West	vs. Triad	6:15 p.m.		
O'Fallon	vs. Mater Dei	8 p.m.		

Nov. 24				
Mascoutah	vs. O'Fallon	6:15 p.m.		
Mater Dei	vs. Belleville West	8 p.m.		
Nov. 25				
Triad	vs. Mascoutah	8:15 p.m.		
Belleville West	vs. O'Fallon	8 p.m.		
Nov. 27				
Mascoutah	vs. Alton	12:30 p.m.		
Mater Dei	vs. Triad	6:15 p.m.		
Belleville West	vs. Mascoutah	8 p.m.		

Galesburg Thanksgiving
Tournament

Nov. 24				
Aurora West	vs. Peoria Woodruff	8 p.m.		

Nov. 26				
Galesburg	vs. East St. Louis	7:30 p.m.		
Nov. 28				
East St. Louis	vs. Aurora West	6:30 p.m.		
Nov. 29				
Galesburg	vs. Peoria Woodruff	8 p.m.		
Nov. 30				
Peoria Woodruff	vs. East St. Louis	6:30 p.m.		
Galesburg	vs. Aurora West	8:15 p.m.		

BOYS BASKETBALL
47th Annual Washington (Mo.)
St. Francis Borgia Pepp-Cola
Thanksgiving Tournament

Nov. 25				
Game 1	St. Francis Borgia	1 vs. Winner		
Game 2	Pepp-Cola	1 vs. Winner		
Game 3	Washington	1 vs. Winner		
Game 4	St. Francis Borgia	2 vs. Winner		
Game 5	Pepp-Cola	2 vs. Winner		
Game 6	Washington	2 vs. Winner		
Game 7	St. Francis Borgia	3 vs. Winner		
Game 8	Pepp-Cola	3 vs. Winner		
Game 9	Washington	3 vs. Winner		

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Former Althoff assistant returns to take helm

By Bill Hester
Correspondent

Dave Harris is back at Althoff High School, and he's PREP WRESTLING

looking forward to getting the wrestling program back on track. Harris was an assistant coach for five years at Althoff before becoming the head coach at Hillsboro High School for the last five years.

First goal for Harris: increased numbers for program

The first concern for Harris is to increase the number of participants in the Crusaders wrestling program.

"Last year there were only 12 kids in the entire program," Harris said. "That made it very tough because they had to forfeit three or four weight divisions in almost every meet."

Harris hopes that will not be the case this season. "The numbers are better," Harris said. "We have 23 or 24 out although I would really like that to be in the 30-40 range."

The Crusaders were lean in numbers last season, but they had some quality wrestlers. They qualified three to the state tournament. Two of them, Dan Quartz and Andy Huskey, have graduated. Quartz was ranked No. 1 for much of the season before being upset at state.

The Crusaders do return junior Dustin Schloeman, who was a state qualifier last season. He will likely wrestle at 140 pounds this season. "Dustin was been wrestling

for a long time," Harris said. "He's aggressive on his feet and is good at the top position."

Althoff also boasts experience in the middle and upper weight classes. Juniors Matt Stump and Tom Young will follow Schloeman in the lineup at 145 and 152 pounds respectively.

Seniors Pat Shaw (215) and Jerome Tiltman (275) return with varsity experience in the heavy-weight divisions. The rest of the spots will be filled by young wrestlers. Three freshmen come into the program

with some wrestling experience: Zach Harris, Corey Schloeman and Clay Weier. They will battle for time at the lower weight classes, along with returning sophomore Adam Malone.

"The main objective this season is to keep these kids out and get more to come out for next year," Harris said. "I want the younger kids to get some experience and a good feel for the sport. The goal is to just keep improving as the season goes on. I want them to work on their techniques and not to get discouraged."

The Crusaders open the season Dec. 3 against Roxana.

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Continued from Page B1

pounds) and Jacob Janek (215 pounds), return as sophomores to fill a major portion of spots. "Jim is a man on a mission," Kirgan said. "He did a great job as a freshman last year. But he finished a little short, and now he is like a man possessed. He is in the weight room doing the extra things. Not making it to sectionals made him hungry. I expect some pretty big things out of Jim."

"Tom (119 pounds last year) grew quite a bit and put on some muscle. He may go down to 125 pounds. It just depends how everything goes. He is having to work to make 130. Jake had a winning record in varsity and was undefeated in junior varsity last year. He is really looking good so far."

This year Kirgan likely will

start three more freshmen—in Sheldon Murphy (103 pounds), Patrick Fliegenbutz (140 pounds) and Brian Beyrau (160 pounds).

"We have such an outstanding group of junior high school programs and coaches that it isn't as if they are walking into the room as normal freshmen," Kirgan said. "I can't say enough about the feeder programs. They already understand the basics of wrestling when they get here. They already feel like the y are little Warriors, just waiting to get their chance to join the high school team. They already are a part of the program, even down at their level."

"It's a pretty tough crop of freshmen. Sheldon ran cross country in the fall. Patrick was kind of a surprise. We had some quality upperclassmen, Mike Haggar and Dino Clifford, trying out for that weight, and Patrick beat both of them in a challenge

tournament. Both had varsity experience and Patrick beat them out."

"Brian kind of reminds me of George at that age. He is a very good athlete and a real hard worker. Just like George, he is wrestling in an upper weight class. And just like George, he is starting out by wrestling O'Fallon."

"The key for Brian is to get some early success and build his confidence." Chad Wilson (125 pounds), Rich Carney (135 pounds), and Justin York (heavyweight) fill out the Warriors starting roster.

The season was set to begin Tuesday, against the Panthers at O'Fallon. The Warriors will look to improve on a season which saw them finish fourth in the State Team Tournament. "I don't think any of the kids

will lose because they were out-worked," Kirgan said. "I'm real proud of the way they have worked to prepare themselves for the season."

"My goal for the team is to be better at the end of the season than we are at the beginning. In the past we have had problems with the kids quitting or getting suspended, and we have ended up being set back in the middle of the season than at the end. Presaison rankings are fine, but the team that gets remembered is the one that gets it done in March."

"There is a lot of history here and the kids are expected to go out and wrestle like Granite City wrestlers. Like all the great coaches here before me I demand a lot, I am no different. If they continue to work this hard they'll only get better, and they are pretty good to begin with."

Phillip joins area sports celebration

Continued from Page B1

Phillip was selected state tournament MVP and led his Granite City team to the Illinois state basketball championship during his senior year in 1940. Phillip went on to the University of Illinois, where he was named to the all-Big Ten Conference Team, and twice was named the University's Athlete of the Year.

Phillip led the Illini to two conference championships in 1942 and '43, and to an undefeated season in 1943. Phillip was selected All-American in 1942 and '43, and was named the 1943 College Player of the Year and Big Ten Conference MVP.

Phillip's athletic brilliance was interrupted by World War II, in which he served three years as a Marines field artillery officer and unit commander. Phillip was a part of the Battle of two Jims.

Upon his return to college in 1947, Phillip again was selected an All-American and

landed on the All-Time Big Ten Basketball Team.

Phillip played 11 years in the NBA with Chicago, Philadelphia, Fort Wayne, Cincinnati, and St. Louis. He was a member of the 1956 Olympic team and played in four on-ship finals. Phillip also played in the first five NBA All-Star games, from 1951-55. At one time he held every assist record in the NBA. In 1958 he returned to coach the St. Louis Hawks before his Hall of Fame induction in 1961.

In the off-season early in his basketball career, Phillip continued to play baseball for Decatur, Columbus, Winston-Salem, and Bakersfield in the minor leagues.

But Phillip's spot in the all-century roster was sealed by his greatness in basketball, for which he was selected one of the 20 greatest college players of all time by Modern Encyclopedia of Basketball in 1979.

In 1989, Phillip was selected as one of the "100 Greatest Players of the First Century of

Basketball."

Last Monday's celebration was the cap to that award-winning history.

"It made me think of a lot of things," said Louis Cardinals' Knott's Gang down at Sportsman's Park. It brought back a lot of good memories. I got to see Carl Linderhard, who was from Granite City. I played with him in the Carolina League in the early '50s."

As the Metro East looks back on a century of sports, Phillip's star shines bright, keeping the lamp lit on Granite City's reputation of athletic excellence.

"I would just like to be remembered as a good ballplayer who represented the good things in basketball," Phillip said. "We had a team fever, not individual like you see today. Of course the rules were different back then. But I thought I played well and represented the league very well."

Granite City girls win two consecutive games

Continued from Page B1
Instead of 2-3, We lost to a good Cahokia team by four

points, and we gave Alton Marquette by far the best game of the tournament and lost by 20. "We played real well for a time. It was good for us to get out and play that many games. It helped our confidence as a team. We also got to see a variety of different looks from the

other teams. Marquette was real quick and played a 3-1, Alton pressed us up and down the court, and Waterloo and Civic Memorial dropped into a zone. We got to look at a lot of different things." The Warriors played at Wood River Tuesday.

"It will be a good test for us before the southwestern Conference season begins," Moad said. "The following week we have to play at Belleville East and at home against Edwardsville."

"From what I have heard Wood River is pretty good. Last year we beat them on Wallace's 3-pointer at the buzzer (81-60). We can use a win now. All wins are big."

"We played real well for a time. It was good for us to get out and play that many games. It helped our confidence as a team. We also got to see a variety of different looks from the other teams."

John Moad
Granite City coach

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Sports

Upcoming MVCHA games

DATE	TIME	RINK	HOME	AWAY
Nov. 24	5:45	EA	Southwestern	Marquette
Nov. 24	7:15	EA	Bethalto	Marquette
Nov. 24	8:15	GC	Granite City	Edwardsville
Nov. 27	4:30	HH	Collinsville	Waterloo
Nov. 27	5:15	CA	Freeburg	Waterloo

DATE	TIME	RINK	HOME	AWAY
Nov. 27	5:30	EA	Marquette	Alton
Nov. 28	5:15	CA	Freeburg	Marquette
Nov. 28	6:45	EA	Jerseyville	Roxana
Nov. 28	7:15	HH	O'Fallon	Bethalto
Nov. 29	2:15	EA	Highland	Edwardsville
Nov. 30	6:45	EA	O'Fallon	Waterloo

DATE	TIME	RINK	HOME	AWAY
Dec. 1	5:45	EA	EAWR	Bethalto
Dec. 1	7:15	EA	Bethalto	Granite City
Dec. 1	8:15	GC	Granite City	Marquette
Dec. 2	7:30	EA	Marquette	Waterloo
Dec. 4	4:30	HH	Waterloo	Freeburg
Dec. 4	5:15	CA	Freeburg	Jerseyville
Dec. 4	6:30	EA	Southwestern	Collinsville
Dec. 4	8:00	HH	Bethalto	Waterloo
Dec. 5	5:45	EA	Highland	Waterloo
Dec. 5	6:45	EA	Bethalto	Granite City
Dec. 7	8:45	HH	Waterloo	Freeburg

DATE	TIME	RINK	HOME	AWAY
Dec. 8	7:00	EA	Alton	Bethalto
Dec. 8	8:15	GC	Highland	EAWR
Dec. 9	7:30	EA	Granite City	Granite City
Dec. 11	4:30	HH	Bethalto	Waterloo
Dec. 11	5:15	CA	Waterloo	Granite City
Dec. 11	5:30	EA	Roxana	Marquette
Dec. 12	5:45	HH	Marquette	Freeburg
Dec. 12	6:45	EA	Marquette	Bethalto
Dec. 12	7:15	HH	Granite City	Roxana
Dec. 12	8:15	HH	Granite City	Waterloo
Dec. 13	8:45	HH	Granite City	Waterloo
Dec. 14	8:45	HH	Bethalto	Waterloo
Dec. 15	7:00	EA	Roxana	Marquette

Chester boasts state finish as sophomore

Continued from Page B1

"The state meet was by far her best race," Fennoy said. "There is no comparison to what goes on at Detweiler Park with the four races. She looked good in other races and had better times, but with 300 meters left to go (at state), she was in 28th with people charging on her. She had to generate something within in to pass people, but at the same time hold off the other runners. She fought it off. This is a real flyer."

The term was one Fennoy and the team coined after discussing the tradition of East St. Louis distance running and sprinters. "Real Flyer" is not only about results but about work ethic in practice, in competition and in the classroom. "They have the inner drive,"

Fennoy said of Chester and fellow sophomore Dawn Harper. "Chester" likes to do this. She likes running. She enjoys training. There is no part of training she does in a negative vein. She is a solid student citizen. She gets along with teammates and opponents."

Chester and Harper have built a friendship on complementing each other's running styles. Harper, who won gold medals in last spring at the IHSA Class AA state track meet in the 100- and 300-meter hurdles, worked to become a better sprinter.

"One gives to the other," Fennoy said. "Together there is a tremendous strength." Chester finished 62nd at the state cross country meet as a

freshman and her climb to 21st gives Fennoy reason to look forward to seeing her progress on the track in the 1,600- and 3,200-meter runs.

"She knows there is a long way to go at being No. 1," Fennoy said. "She was seventh at state in the two-mile as a freshman. She has a tremendous amount of ability."

The girls' team (Chester and Harper) energy and inner drive. I can set all the goals for them. Now, most important, it is watching Shonda developing on her own goals. If she continues on this road there are some rewards. She would like to be a runner in college. She is a 3.0 student and will take the ACT this year, because she wants to. She is taking core classes.

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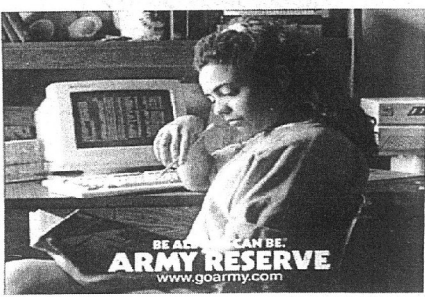
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Bratten made clean sweep in invitational

Continued from Page B1

runners in Missouri and Illinois. He added victories at the Jerseyville Invitational, the Madison County Meet, the Hazelwood (Mo.) East Invitational and the Southwestern Conference meet to close out the regular season. The only race in Illinois he did not win during the regular season was at the Centralia Invitational where he finished second to Justin Amason of Centralia.

Local coaches made Bratten the runaway choice for Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year for the Journal.

Newspapers of Southern Illinois. Edwardsville coach Jim Price said Bratten had a way of punishing the other runners through the first half of the race.

He got out early and pushed the pace and hung with the good guys at the big meets," Price said. "Andy would make his move at the 2-to-2½-mile mark. Andy's strategy for the year was to what he could focus on his race and make the kids suffer as much as possible. His strength in the middle of the race made it difficult to keep pace with him."

Bratten's strength this season came from summer workouts and mileage. Bratten and his teammates ran six days a week, averaging five to eight miles a

day. "I knew it (the work) was worth it at the Granite City Invitational," Bratten said. "I ran my fastest time ever. All the work was worth it."

Bratten's success during the regular season helped the Tigers become a formidable squad in the Metro East. At the Jerseyville meet and in the IHSA Class AA regional, the Tigers recorded perfect team scores by capturing first through fifth places.

"As far as the team, he represented the steady anchor that the team needed and that is no way meant to overlook what Stephen (Pifer) did. He's just a freshman," Price said. "But the other

boys were moving up and down the lineup from third to five. Andy was always the rock the team could be centered around."

He had been to state two times before this year. He knew what caliber the practices had to be to get the team to state. After the regional victory, in which Bratten set a course record, the Tigers won their first sectional title in more than 20 years and placed 18th in the state.

A Holiday Golf Gift Primer

Greetings golfers! Every year during the holidays, the biggest question heard at golf shops across the nation is, "What can I get for the golfer who has everything?" Fortunately, while there is no right answer to that question, the golf industry presents a lot of possibilities.

So, what's my answer? My immediate response would be golf shirts or wind shirts. It's a gift that's appreciated by any golfer and, with all the styles available, you're unlikely to give one that he or she already has. In addition, sizing is fairly simple and,

with a wide selection of brand names, there are quality golf shirts and wind shirts available in every price range. Another item that makes a nice holiday gift is a new pair of golf shoes. The golf shoe industry has almost reinvented itself in the last five years and new materials and technologies for waterproofing, breathability, and traction continue to emerge. Here again, with the new concepts in golf shoes, there are quality shoes available in almost every price range, with the amount of bells and whistles having the greatest effect on price.

One drawback to giving shoes as a gift is finding the right fit. If you're unsure about someone's size, your best bet for giving shoes may lie in a gift certificate. Every golfer alive will need more golf balls at some point. The problem here is brand preference and performance. With a dizzying array of balls from Titleist, Top-Flite, Wilson, Bridgestone, and others, choosing the right ball for the individual someone on your gift list may not be as easy as it sounds. Your best bet is to check his or her bag, or get a good look at what they're playing on the course before you head to the golf shop.

While you're checking that bag for ball type, don't forget that golf bags make wonderful holiday gifts as well. Golf bags are available in a variety of price ranges, come in almost every color imaginable, and offer a wide array of features. Before buying a bag, find out if your golfer is a walker or a cart rider, as some bags or lighter for walkers and sturdier for cart riders. And don't forget a new set of head covers to go with that new bag!

Next up, here's golf equipment. With new drivers and irons sets for men and women from Titleist, Ping, and Callaway, and new fairway woods from Orlimar, Adams, Taylor Made, and others, there's no shortage of hot new equipment to be available for the golfer on your list. Another equipment gift idea is a wedge set, with new lines available from Titleist, Cleveland, and others. If there's a fledgling golfer on your list, starter sets for both children and adults with woods, irons, putter and bag also make great gifts.

Finally there is a tremendous selection of golf gifts for every budget. From caps and umbrellas to ball display racks, magnetic bracelets, putting mats, practice nets, and pull carts, there's something for everyone. You'll appreciate that doesn't require you to know his or her size, preferences, or favorite color. In addition, golf books, videos, and gift sets will also make wonderful gifts for any golfer.

Regardless of what golf gift you choose or receive, have a wonderful and blessed holiday season!

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- Golf Books
- Shag Bags & Ball Retrievers

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- Chip Mouth Practice Nets
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- Travel Covers with Wheels
- Golf Bags & Shoes
- Windshirts and Vests
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Movie listings

Film timetable for Thursday, Nov. 25. For times on other days or to confirm these times, check local theaters.

CARMIKE PETITE

1-70 and Hwy. 157,
Collinsville, Ill. 344-1708
Pokemon (G) 7:15
The World Is Not Enough
(PG-13) 7:00
House On Haunted Hill (R)
7:05
Sleepy Hollow (R) 7:10

EASTGATE CINE

Eastgate Plaza, E. Alton, Ill.,
254-5289
Sleepy Hollow (R) 4:40,
7:20
The Bone Collector (R)
4:30, 7:30
Anywhere But Here (PG-13)
4:10, 7:10
House On Haunted Hill (R)
4:50, 7:40

Pokemon (G) 4:20, 6:40
The World Is Not Enough
(PG-13) 4:00, 7:00

COTTONWOOD

EDWARDSVILLE CINE
Edwardsville, Ill., 656-6390
The Sixth Sense (PG-13)
6:45
The Bachelor (PG-13) 7:15
Double Jeopardy (R) 7:00

GALLERIA 6

30 St. Louis Galleria, 721-
8722
Check theater for shows
and times

HALLS FERRY 14 CINE

2600 Target Drive, 822-2463
End Of Days (R) 1:45, 4:25,
7:00, 9:35
Toy Story 2 (G) 12:50, 3:10,
5:30, 7:45, 10:05
Bats (PG-13) 4:45, 10:00
Music Of The Heart (PG)
1:15, 7:15

Sleepy Hollow (R) 1:35,
4:50, 7:10, 9:30
House On Haunted Hill (R)
1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:10
The Bone Collector (R)
1:55, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55
The World Is Not Enough
(PG-13) 1:10, 4:30, 7:05, 9:40
Light It Up (R) 1:30, 4:30,
7:15, 9:25
Light It Up (R) 2:30, 5:20,
8:00
Sixth Sense (PG-13) 1:50,
4:55, 7:40, 10:05
The Bachelor (PG-13) 1:15,
5:10, 7:35, 10:00
The Best Man (R) 1:25,
4:40, 7:20, 9:50
Pokemon (G) 12:45, 3:00,
5:15, 7:30, 9:30
The Messenger (R) 1:05,
4:35, 7:25
LINCOLN THEATER
103 E. Main, Belleville, Ill.,
233-0123
Check theater for shows

and times

NAMEOKI CINEMA

30 Nameoki Village, 877-
6630
Superstar (PG-13) 7:15
The World Is Not Enough
(PG-13) 7:00

O'FALLON 15 CINE

1320 Central Park Dr., O'Fal-
lon, Ill., 822-2463
Dogma (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:00,
9:30
The World Is Not Enough
(PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:35
The World Is Not Enough
(PG-13) 2:15, 5:00, 7:50
The World Is Not Enough
(PG-13) 12:00, 2:45, 5:40, 8:30
Toy Story 2 (G) 12:00, 2:30,
4:50, 7:10, 9:30
Toy Story 2 (G) 1:00, 3:20,
5:50, 8:10
Toy Story 2 (G) 1:45, 4:00,
6:10, 8:45
The Messenger (R) 2:00,
5:00, 8:05

Anywhere But Here (PG-13)
1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:05
Bone Collector (R) 1:30,
4:10, 7:15, 9:40
Bone Collector (R) 12:10,
2:45, 5:15, 7:45
The Best Man (R) 12:20,
2:50, 5:20, 7:50
Bringing Out The Dead (R)
2:15, 7:00
The Story Of Us (R) 12:10,
4:40, 9:25
The Insider (R) 2:00, 5:00,
8:05
Sixth Sense (R) 1:30, 4:20,
7:00, 9:25

ROXANA CINE THEATER

Roxana, Ill., 254-6746
Double Jeopardy (R) 7:00

ST. CLAIR 10

50 Ludwig Drive, 822-2463
Pokemon (G) 1:00, 3:15,
5:30, 7:45
Pokemon (G) 2:00, 4:15,
6:30, 8:45
End Of Days (R) 1:15, 4:00,

7:15
End Of Days (R) 2:30, 5:30,
8:15
House On Haunted Hill (R)
1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00
Sleepy Hollow (R) 1:10,
3:30, 6:00, 8:20
Sleepy Hollow (R) 2:10,
4:30, 7:00, 9:20
Double Jeopardy (R) 1:20,
4:20, 6:50, 9:20
The Bachelor (PG-13) 1:05,
4:15, 6:40, 9:15
Light It Up (R) 1:25, 4:05,
6:45, 9:10

SHOWPLACE 12

EDWARDSVILLE

6633 Center Grove Rd.,
659-7469
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and times

WATERLOO CINE

Route 3, 939-9997
Check theater for shows
and times

Film examines nature vs technology

Animated 'Princess Mononoke' offers lavish fable based on ancient Japanese folklore

By Ronnie Roy

It's the biggest animated film in the history of Japan, second only to "Titanic" at the Japanese box office. No, it's not "Pokemon." It's Hayao Miyazaki's "Princess Mononoke," now playing at the Plaza Frontenac Cinema. Based on Japanese folklore, "Mononoke" is a fable of nature versus technology. Hardly a new idea, but told in a magical world, lavishly animated. The tale begins in a remote village, suddenly under attack

by a worm-infested demon. The demon is slain by Prince Ashitaka (Billy Crudup), but not before the demon leaves his mark on the young warrior. Upon its death, the demon reverts to a large boar, one of the beast gods of the forest. A lump of iron found in the boar's side is responsible for driving the god insane. Ashitaka goes off to investigate and finds himself caught in the middle of a war between humans and the forest gods. Leader of the human faction

is Lady Eboshi (Minnie Driver), who has built a fortress and ironworks on the edge of the forest. Having run out of available ore, she is now cutting down the forest to find more. Fighting to protect the forest are the wolf god (Gillian Anderson), her two children and her adopted human daughter, Princess Mononoke (Claire Danes). Also in the mix is a crude monk named Jigo (Billy Bob Thornton), who has his own hidden agenda. "Princess Mononoke" is similar to the standard Disney animated feature only in the high quality of its animation. From length to subject matter to character, it's another world. Clocking in at 2 hours and 20 minutes, it's a good hour longer than the standard American animated film. Its also has plenty of bloodshed and as

many beheadings as "Sleepy Hollow." But most interesting, it's not all black and white. Disney would have made Lady Eboshi totally evil, expecting the audience to cheer as she falls to her deserved death. Ashitaka and Mononoke would live happily ever after in the forest. Miyazaki has created a much more complex tale. Eboshi cares for her people, a town made up mostly of outcasts such as lepers and former prostitutes. Ashitaka doesn't take sides, and in the end chooses to help Eboshi rebuild rather than run off with Mononoke. For an example of animation that isn't just child's play, check out "Princess Mononoke." A Miramax Films release, "Princess Mononoke" is produced by Toshio Suzuki. The film is rated PG-13.



San (Claire Danes) in a scene from the Miramax Films release, "Princess Mononoke."

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Social

Granite City Senior High class of '44 holds reunion

Granite City Senior High School classes of January and June 1944 held their 55th reunion at Sunset Hills Country Club.

First response was received from Dorothy Raub Castleman, who also gave the invocation. Gene Ross was master of ceremonies. Committee members were Kaye Green, Betty Williams, Mary and Ralph Elliott, Gene Ross, Jo Hulsey, Terry Pitman, Millie Chandler, Esther Suva, John Boyer, Lucille Sackett and Lucille Caban.

Those attending were:

JANUARY
James Jennings, Jarvey Heiken, Yetta Kasparian, Gagosian, Robert Hill, Lester Miller, Shirley Nelson, McOmms, Olga Pavetic

Mink, Millie Todoroff, Chandler, Rose Marie Walker Bauer

JUNE
LaVelle Atchison Dorway, Gloria Barkley Geiger, Betty Barnes Williams, Richard Bauer, Nelle Bogosian, David Gourisaw, John Boyer, Tony Burich, Delores Buchner, Dorthea, Irene Burnett, Beishe, Catherine Colligan, Hommer, Erma Cottrell, Biede, Patricia Crean, Thomas, Richard Depigian, Lois Eggle, Misemer, Lucille Emmons Sackett, Albert Grieve, Jo Georgeff, Hulsey, Eugen Hudson, John Huff, Leon Jilek, Merka Matcaroff, Lindner, Ellen McIlvoy, Kovar, Irene McIntosh, Dorthea, Melvin McKay, Vera Meyers Whyers, John

Nenninger, Annie Petras, Kovach, Mary Pinney, Elliott, William Pistrui, Fred Ragsdale, Doris Raub Stark, Dorothy Raub Castleman, Gene Ross, Alberta Schroeder Becker, Lucille Shable Caban, Peggy Sparks Belcher, Carl Spiroff, Esther Suva, Bert St. Ivany, Grace Tempo Lehn, Louise Trittschuh, Charles Varley, Theresa Walder Pitman, Verna Watts Dillon, Frances Wendel Robbers, Norma Wingerter Gerkin, Maxine Wyatt Rutter, Jean Young Knox.

"Ode to the Class of '44" was read by Fred Ragsdale, author. Music was by "Class Act." A tour of the renovated high school and a picnic in Wilson Park climaxed the reunion activities.



Submitted photo

Granite City Senior High School classes of January and June 1944 held their 55th reunion at Sunset Hills Country Club.

Roofers Donate time, materials to repair roof at Good Samaritan House



Submitted photo

From left, Dan O'Donnell and Tom Brumitt, members of Roofers Local No. 2, helped to repair the roof at the Good Samaritan House.

Members of the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofer and Allied Workers Local 2 Apprenticeship Program recently donated their time and expertise to repair the roof at the Good Samaritan House, 1825 Delmar, Granite City. In addition, Roofers Mart, located in St. Louis County, donated all of the materials to complete the job.

"It was very rewarding to complete the job," said Dan Knight, apprentice coordinator for Local 2. "We repaired all of the active leaks and did what we could to prolong the life of the existing roof."

The Good Samaritan House provides safe, temporary housing, food and resources to women and children in need. The building is more than 50-years-old and the roof had significant leaks.

"We appreciate their help," said Dave Jenkins, a member of the Board of Directors with Good Samaritan House. "They did an excellent job."

The United Union of Roofers, Waterproofer and Allied Workers Local 2 office is located at 2920 Locust St. in St. Louis. For more information, call (314) 539-9683.

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Eta Alumnae Chapter holds monthly luncheon meeting

Eleven members of the regular monthly meeting of the Eta Alumnae Chapter, Phi Tau Omega Sorority at Ravanelli's Restaurant, hosted by June Drew and Elsie Rodell.

Following luncheon, there was a luncheon meeting with

President Van Stuart presiding, Dec. 1 was set for the chapter's Christmas party at Ravanelli's. Officers of the chapter will be in charge of the party.

Card games occupied the afternoon with prizes awarded to all attending.

Others attending not mentioned above were Betty Harris, Mildred Jungels, LaVeeda Knobbe, Marguerite Lexow, Ann McDowell, Mary Lou Tonsick, Lois Winter and Mary Evalyne Yenko.

Church Women hold unit meeting

Church Women United Unit Meeting took place recently at Nameoki United Methodist Church. Devotions were led by Ola Jones.

The Christmas party is scheduled for 11 a.m. Dec. 3 at Nameoki United Methodist Church. Bring a covered dish, white elephant items and decorated basket of goodies for auction. All

CWU members and friends are welcome.

On going activities include the Layette program for Phoenix Crisis Center, the Good Samaritan House and Catholic Charities, the CROP walk for Church World Service and the Blanket program, the BAC program-learning to Read and Tutoring and Birthday

celebrations monthly at our two local Senior Service Centers (Colonnades and Colonial Care).

Many other programs are ongoing and very supportive through Church Women United meetings at 10 a.m. the fourth Thursday of the month.

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Military news

Army National Guard Pvt. Cathy Logue has graduated from basic military training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo. Logue is the daughter of Sharon Patrick of Granite City. She is a 1997 graduate of Venice Lincoln High School, Venice.

Air Force Airman Jennifer May has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. May is the daughter of Paula and Harold May Jr. of Granite City.

Kyle Taylor has been selected for promotion in the U.S. Air Force to the rank of major. Taylor is standardization and evaluations, chief with the 55th Special Operations Squadron at Hurlburt Field, Fort Walton Beach, Fla. He is the son of Frederick and Norma Taylor of Bull Shoals, Ark. His wife, Kerrie, is the daughter of Dorothy O'Dell of Granite City. The major is a 1994 graduate of Granite City High School and a 1998 graduate of the University of Illinois, Edwardsville.

Army Pvt. Anthony Click has arrived at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga., to complete basic military training.

Click is the son of Rebecca and stepson of Dennis Grodzicky of Granite City.

New Airman D'Juan Nunn, son of Robert Nunn of Madison, recently completed a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea, Arabian Gulf and Adriatic Sea while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, home ported in Norfolk, Va. Nunn's ship is the lead ship of the USS Enterprise Battle Group. The 1994 graduate of Cleveland Junior Naval Academy of St. Louis joined the Navy in May 1998.

Navy Seaman Ramon Mitchell, son of Patricia Whitcomb of Venice, recently completed a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea, Arabian Gulf and Adriatic Sea while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, home ported in Norfolk, Va. Mitchell's ship is the lead ship of the USS Enterprise Battle Group.

The 1998 graduate of Madison Senior High School of Madison, joined the Navy in December 1996.

Marine Lance Cpl. George Wolfe, son of George Wolfe and Bernice Wolfe, both of Granite City, recently completed a six-month deployment

to the Western Pacific and Indian oceans and Arabian Gulf, while assigned to the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, embarked aboard the ships of the USS Boxer Amphibious Ready Group. The 1997 graduate of Granite City Senior High School joined the Marine Corps in June 1997.

Michael Martin has been specially identified for early promotion to senior airman in the U.S. Air Force. The airman was awarded the new rating ahead of other Air Force members by a "below-the-zone" promotion board that considered job performance, military knowledge, bearing and self-improvement efforts.

Martin is a storage and issue locator journeyman assigned to the 31st Supply Squadron at Aviano Air Base, Italy. She is the daughter of Ronald Martin of Granite City, and Patricia Cremer of San Diego, Calif. The senior airman is a 1995 graduate of Granite City High School.

Army Reserve Spec. Jaimie Cape participated in an Army reserve component two-week annual training exercise in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala. The training is a series of expanded New Horizons (Nuevos Horizontes) mission exercises in Central America.

The task force member also provided humanitarian assistance and disaster relief support to the five Central American nations devastated by Hurricanes Georges and Mitch in late October, early November 1998.

Cape is a medical specialist normally assigned to the 21st General Hospital, St. Louis. She is the daughter of Army Lt. Col. Melvin Cape of Lansing, Kan., and Jaye Gilleland of Granite City. The specialist is a 1996 graduate of Granite City Senior High School.

Bari Baum has graduated from the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps Advanced Camp at Fort Lewis, Tacoma, Wash. The cadet is currently a student at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. Baum is the daughter of Karen Baum and Russ Baum, both of Granite City. She is a 1995 graduate of Granite City Senior High School.

Army Reserve Capt. Erema Ducasse participated in an Army reserve component two-week annual training exercise in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala. The training is a series of expanded New Horizons (Nuevos Horizontes) mission exercises in Central America. As a member of Task Force Motagua, the soldier jointly trained with other U.S. military units in readiness exercises and worked along side host nation residents in efforts to demonstrate continued U.S. support for the peoples of the Caribbean and Central America.

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Army National Guard Pfc. David Ethington has graduated from basic military training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo. Ethington is the son of Margaret Ethington and Glenn Ethington, both of Granite City. The private graduated in 1994 from Granite City Senior High School, and received an associate's degree in 1999 from Bellevue Area College, Granite City.

Army National Guard Pvt. William Bowen has entered basic military training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Bowen is the son of Darren and stepson of Mindi Bowen of Granite City. He is a 1999 graduate of Granite City High School.

Kenny Johnson has been promoted in the U.S. Air Force to the rank of senior airman. Johnson, an accounting journeyman, is assigned to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Offutt Air Force Base, Bellevue, Neb. She is the daughter of Kenny Muller of Granite City. In 1996, the senior airman graduated from Granite City Senior High School.

Erik Boone, the grandson of Bertha Boone and a graduate of Granite City High School, recently enlisted in the United States Marine Corps.

Army Pvt. Christopher Davis has arrived at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga., to complete basic military training. Davis is the son of Larry Davis of Granite City.

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Young at Heart senior citizens hold monthly meeting



Submitted photo

Police officer Sparks gave a talk on senior security at the meeting.

The Young at Heart senior citizens of Holy Family Catholic Church had its monthly meeting Oct. 18. President Cleola Siebert called the meeting to order. Sister Jean Patrick led the group in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Police Officer Sparks gave a talk to members on Senior Security. During the 1950's and 1960's, I can remember my folks going to bed without locking their house and car doors. Times have changed and crimes are being committed every day. Certain people target seniors, and every year senior citizens loses thousands

of dollars to traveling con artists. Seniors are cautioned to be alert for the following scams: home repair fraud, utility employee impersonators, home diversion burglaries and bank examiner scams. Please report any such con attempt to your police department.

PERSONAL SAFETY. Be aware of the people around you, especially at shopping malls, go in pairs. **HOME SECURITY.** Burglars hate lights, so every senior should have motion lights or some type of light.

After Officer Sparks talked, minutes from the



Submitted photo

Young at Heart members Betty and Dale Ramey celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary.

September meeting were read by the recording secretary, Cleo Schnefke, followed by the treasurer's report given by Goldie Rozycke. Corresponding secretary, Louise Kovar, reported receiving a thank you card from George Sotiroff for all the get well cards and prayers he received from the members. Friendship chairperson Mary Rita Ahlers sent get well cards to the following members: Jean Francis, George Sotiroff, Marilyn Schooley, Marie Stanek and Cathy Wiese. Membership chairperson, Connie McGee, reported 80 members attended.

Birthdays celebrated in October were Adele Balcer, Helen Mooshegan, Agnes Peck, Cathy Fedora, Dorothy McKinney and Ruth Patton.

Anniversaries celebrated in October were Mattie and George Sotiroff, 47 years; Betty and Dale Ramey, 51 years.

Irma Manning, trip chairperson, reported a trip is scheduled for the Casino Queen on Nov. 29. The \$5 includes the trip and breakfast. The group is scheduled to leave the church parking lot at 8 a.m., breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and board the boat right away.



Submitted photo

Young at Heart members Jan and Art Oberle celebrated their 34th wedding anniversary.

The cut-off date for reservation and payment is Nov. 19. Another trip is scheduled for Dec. 19 to Steedville, Mo., to the Meramac Music Show. The price is \$30, which includes transportation, the show and dinner. The group will leave the church parking lot at 11 a.m. The show starts at 2 p.m. with dinner between 5 and 5:30 p.m. The cut-off date for reservations and payment is Nov. 19. Lucille Caban reported that the Crop Walk had 36 walkers and raised over \$2,000. Of the money collected \$500 stays in this area. On Nov. 17, the Holy Family Community Center

will host a soup and bread meal. This is a way of helping keep the Koch center open. On Dec. 26, Young at Heart will host and serve refreshments after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

Attendance prizes were won by Connie McGee, Mattie Sotiroff, Dorothy McKinney, Ruth Rotter, Mary Rita Ahlers, Margaret Ferro and Katherine Sawicki.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Nov. 15 in the church community center.

American Legion Auxiliary holds fall meeting

The 22nd District of the American Legion Auxiliary recently had its fall district meeting at the American Legion Post 214 in Bethalto.

The meeting was conducted by Maxine Gress, 22nd District president, of Bethalto. Special guests included Marion Schwerman, department president; Sharon Conner, department first vice president; and Sandy Nys, department membership chairman.

Department President Schwerman's special project this year will be three-fold: education scholarships, American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, and juvenile diabetes research.

Lunch was served to 48 members by Bethalto Unit 214.

Following lunch, the following guests addressed the

group: James Taylor, 22nd District senior vice commander, American Legion Post 113; Gayle Taylor, 5th Division president, and Margaret Payne, 5th Division first vice president. Dorothy Hinson, past department president, gave a report on the 79th annual convention in Anaheim, Calif.

Dona Tankersley, first vice president and membership chairman, announced the district has 74.06 percent of the membership dues collected at this date.

Mary Lamoreaux, second vice president and children/youth chairman, reported on meetings in Evansville, Ind., and Bloomington. We will be stressing the spinoza bear, the dog "Josh," Special Olympics and several other

children's programs. She will purchase gifts for children in a special home in our District area at Christmas.

The Rev. Janice Kessler, chaplain, asked Units to donate to the Chapel of Four Chaplains' new building fund. A memorial was sent to the Education Fund in memory of Velora Northway, past district president from Wood River, who passed away in October.

Marjorie Leezy, Americanism chairman,

asked all to continue to fly our flags especially on holiday throughout the year. An essay contest will again take place in the schools for Americanism.

JoAnn Hogg, Auxiliary Emergency Fund chairman, collected \$42.47 for this fund. This fund provides assistance to Auxiliary members in need.

Margaret Payne, education chairman, announced the forms for scholarships were sent to the Units in September.

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Skating rink opening on ice

Motor meltdown closes rink

By Heather Cole
Staff writer

One of St. Louis's Thanksgiving traditions has simply melted away.

Since its opening 40 years ago, the Steinberg Skating Rink in Forest Park has been open on Thanksgiving, said Elizabeth Falk, rink manager.

But not this year. A faulty motor failed, and the rink won't open until at least late December.

The cooling system motor that keeps the rink on ice failed twice this month. The 40-year-old motor was repaired the first time by Zeller Electric, Inc., Falk said. Zeller Electric employees said after the repair that the motor could not be turned off, said Dan Skillman, commissioner of parks for the city Parks, Recreation and Forestry Division.

Power to the motor was stopped, however, during a planned outage by AmerenUE for construction at Barnes Jewish Children's Hospital.

Zeller Electric officials got a look at the motor Monday and said the bearings were bad, but there

may be more problems with the motor as well, Skillman said. Skillman said city officials

"It's been a big question, who's to blame. We expressed to Ameren that if we lose power, we lose the ice."

Elizabeth Falk
manager, Steinberg Rink

Officials are hoping the motor will be repaired by Christmas.

In the meanwhile, the rink, which is operated by Critter Company, will be closed during the busiest time of the year and will miss a third of the season, Falk said.

"It's been a big question, who's to blame," Falk said. "We expressed to Ameren that if we lose power, we lose the ice."

Skillman said the city was not intending to hold the electric company liable. The city already had been seeking to rehabilitate a similar

motor for use as a backup, Skillman said.

"We had some problems initially with the motor," Skillman said. "We were hopeful it would kind of limp through the season."

AmerenUE officials gave 10 days notice of the planned outage, said Susan Gallagher, a spokeswoman for the company. The hospital had to have the power for a crane it was operating, and couldn't wait until spring to continue the construction, Gallagher said.

Gallagher said AmerenUE knew the rink had been having problems with the motor but did not know the rink hadn't done anything to prepare for the outage.

The city may buy a new motor, Skillman said, but the motors cost \$18,000 to \$20,000, must be custom built, and can take up to six months to be delivered.

A canned food drive for Places for People is still underway at the rink during normal business hours, Falk said. When the rink does all reopen, skaters will find all new skates and longer hours than last season, she said. The rink will be open all day, instead of only during scheduled skating times, she said.

Railroad enthusiast chugs away at replacing 'Amshack'

South Sider tired of broken promises

By Rich Corno
Correspondent

On Oct. 31, 1978, Richard Eichhorst rode the last train to leave Union Station.

He did so as a new temporary station was about to be pieced together a few blocks away at 560 S. 16th St. Twenty-one years later, that temporary station still stands, and Eichhorst, a long-time train enthusiast, is as steamed as an old locomotive.

That's why Eichhorst, a retired high school teacher, organized a meeting Sunday of his fellow aficionados to express displeasure with unfulfilled government promises for a new, permanent station one block from a city of St. Louis' size and stature.

"Our main concern is not just the 'Amshack' here, but St. Louis in general," Eichhorst, a South Side resident, said at the meeting.

"We talk about things, and very little gets done. This temporary station went into service in 1978 on Halloween."

At that time, a new station was expected within five

years. The station has just reached its 21st birthday.

"Last year we had a group of 30 volunteers here to help clean up the lot, and we were promised by next spring (of 1999), they'd start turning the ground to do something. And here we are a year later and there's still talk that spring (of 2000) will be the time."

"We're no longer asking which spring, we're just asking which millennium," he said facetiously. "Even 15 years ago, they (Amtrak) said we would have a new station."

"This temporary station is five mobile home shells that were bolted together to become a station," Eichhorst said. "Well, it is serving a purpose. It is here, and we have to compliment the staff for making the best of it, but temporary to me means a short duration of time."

Eichhorst didn't act angry, but he expressed 21 years worth of frustration when he said, "I can't put the blame exactly on the city or Amtrak, because there's about four entities involved, and I don't know who to

blame. I think Amtrak's dragging their feet. The city has been cooperative here or late; Amtrak doesn't even give you an answer."

Plans on the drawing board include a new, multimodal facility that would accommodate Amtrak, MetroLink, Bi-State and Greyhound buses. The facility would be located between the elevated section of Highway 40 and the MetroLink tracks just south of Kiel Center, and would stretch from 14th to 18th Street.

Construction is expected to take a year and would cost \$22 million, Eichhorst said. Accommodations also would be made for improved, high-speed Amtrak service. Funding would be provided by federal, state and city governments, as well as by Amtrak, a quasi-governmental entity.

Eichhorst says that same promise was made four years ago and still not a shovelful of earth has been turned. All that's left is Eichhorst's churning.

Like the Little Engine that Could, Eichhorst thinks he and others can reach the goal of a new station.

Income investing: There are more opportunities than you might think

By Jeff Proesser

income at different times of your life. But where, exactly, should you put your money? Consider the following:

Certificate of Deposit - CDs promise you a fixed rate of return and guarantee your principal. If you invest \$10,000 in a one-year CD paying 5 percent, you will end up with \$10,500, before taxes.

Corporate, tax-free or government bonds - Bonds also offer a set interest rate. So, if you put your \$10,000 into a 7 percent bond due in 10 years, you will earn \$700 a year. In 10 years, when the bond matures, you will get your \$10,000 back. If you choose to sell the bond before the 10 years are up, you may get more or less than your \$10,000, depending on current market interest rates.

While no investment is risk-free, your principal is generally safe in good-quality bonds held to maturity. However, you still risk losing

purchasing power to inflation. But some income-producing investments, such as high-quality utility stocks and real estate investment trusts also offer the potential for growth that can overcome the effects of inflation.

High-quality utility stocks - Until a few years ago, natural gas and electric companies paid investors steady dividends, but offered less potential for brisk price appreciation. Now, though many utility companies are investing in non-regulated businesses that can provide utilities with greater profits, increased earnings - and higher stock prices.

Real estate investment trusts - REITs own and manage investment property, such as shopping centers or apartment complexes. REITs are bought and sold on the market, just like stocks.

Apart from choosing different income-producing investments, you can also

follow different strategies to maximize your returns.

One such strategy is to create a "bond ladder." This simply means you buy bonds of varying maturities: short-term, intermediate, and long-term.

When rates rise, you can reinvest some of your maturing short-term dollars into higher-rate bonds. But if rates are falling, you have given yourself some protection locking in higher yields typically offered by longer-term bonds.

By picking the right income-producing investments, you can go a long way toward meeting your financial goals now and in the future.

Jeff Proesser is an investment professional in the Granite City office of the St. Louis-based investment firm Edward Jones.

Time to think about year-end tax strategies

By Jeff Proesser

As another year draws to a close, you may be asking yourself a couple of questions. First, "Where does the time go?" And second, "Can I still do something about my taxes?"

Although you can't do anything about the rapid passage of time, you can still employ some tax strategies that can help you on April 15. Here are a few suggestions:

Time your mutual fund purchases. If you plan on buying mutual fund shares

this year, you may want to wait until after your fund declares its capital gains distributions, which usually occurs in early December. Otherwise, you'll be liable for a whole year's worth of capital gains, even if you only held the shares for a brief time. On the other hand, if you plan to sell shares, you'll want to do so before your fund reports its distributions.

Maximize your retirement plan contributions. If you haven't yet contributed the maximum allowable amount to your 401K or other employer-sponsored qualified retirement plan, you might want to do so. These contributions are made with pre-

tax dollars, which will lower your annual taxable income. Plus, your earnings will grow on a tax-deferred basis, which means they will accumulate faster than they would if they were invested in a taxable account with a similar yield. In addition to fully funding your 401K, you may also be able to put in more to your "traditional" IRA. Depending on your individual situation, these contributions may be tax deductible. (You have until April 17, 2000, to make IRA contributions for 1999.)

Make charitable gifts. By making a charitable gift to a qualified organization by year-end, you can get an income tax deduction for the

year. If you transfer an appreciated asset that you have held over one year, such as a stock or a piece of land, you also will avoid capital gains taxes in the future.

Look for tax-favored investment opportunities. If you think that your investments are generating too much taxable income, consider exploring some tax-favored vehicles for next year. For example, you may be interested in tax-free investments, such as municipal bonds. (Earnings from Roth IRAs also grow tax-free, provided you meet certain conditions.) Or you can consider tax-efficient investments, such as mutual funds that do little trading, thereby generating relatively small amounts of capital gains.

By taking these steps, you may be able to brighten your tax picture considerably. As with all decisions regarding your taxes, consult with your tax adviser before taking action. Because everyone's situation is different, not all strategies will be equally effective, but some of them may well work for you.

Jeff Proesser is an investment professional in the Granite City office of the St. Louis-based investment firm Edward Jones.

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News

Catholic group protests 'Dogma'

Member calls movie 'clearly anti-Catholic'

By Sonia Ahuja
Staff writer

More than 100 people last week protested the showing of a movie they believe is offensive to Christians.

The film, "Dogma," has created controversy nationwide. It opened in the St. Louis area earlier this month and currently is playing at 10 area theaters, said Howard Martin Whitcraft, a member of The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property.

The Catholic-inspired civic organization gathered and spoke at a protest Saturday afternoon in front of the Esquire Theatre, 6706 Clayton Road in Clayton.

About 150 people took part in the protest, many holding placards denouncing "Dogma" as blasphemous, Whitcraft said.

Kenny Evans, marketing coordinator for AMC Theatres, which operates the Esquire, said he would not comment on the showing of the movie or the protest.

According to Brenda Nolte, AMC spokeswoman, the Esquire protest was the first at any theater run by the national chain.

"At AMC, we are committed to offering our guests

"At AMC, we are committed to offering our guests convenience and variety in their choice of movies. We don't make the decision for our patrons of what movie they will or will not see."

Brenda Nolte
AMC Theatres spokeswoman

convenience and variety in their choice of movies," Nolte said. "We don't make the decision for our patrons of what movie they will or will not see."

Whitcraft says the movie is "clearly anti-Catholic." "It is so offensive, it is hard to pick out one thing," said Whitcraft.

He said the most "outrageous" claim in the movie "is probably the one that Christ watched with a smile on his face as apostles fornicated." He also said another offensive claim the film

makes is that God is a woman.

He said the title "Dogma" refers to Catholic dogma or doctrine.

"Catholics believe this dogma or doctrine is revealed to us by God, and we believe it to be infallible," he said.

Whitcraft said the movie's writer and director, Kevin Smith, was raised Catholic and has a vendetta against the church.

Muslims and Jews also have found the movie offensive, Whitcraft said.

Whitcraft said his organization's goal is to "try to restore Christian civilization."

"The crisis of modern man has been brought on by the decline of Christianity," he said.

Several people spoke against the movie at the two-hour protest rally, Whitcraft said. They include former St. Louis Hawks basketball player Ed McCauley and state Rep. Carl Hendrickson, R-District 97.

Whitcraft described the Saturday event as "a rally of protest of religious indignation against all involved in the making of the film" and "an invitation of good spirit to not attend the film."

St. Peters man to stand trial for alleged Katy Trail attack

Kevin Verdell Cottingham is risk to community safety, judge says

By Steven Martens
Staff writer

A St. Peters man will stand trial for allegedly attacking a woman as she was jogging on the Katy Trail near Defiance in September.

Kevin Verdell Cottingham, 29, of the 500 block of Kimberly Lane, has been charged with felonious restraint, armed criminal action and unlawful use of a weapon, according to court documents filed in St. Charles County Circuit Court by the county prosecuting attorney's office.

Cottingham was being held Friday in the St. Charles County jail in lieu of a \$20,000 bond, with no 10 percent allowed.

At Cottingham's preliminary hearing Thursday, the alleged victim testified that she had been jogging north

on the trail on the morning of Sept. 27 when she jogged past Cottingham, who was walking in the same direction. The woman said she had a strange feeling about the man as she approached him.

"I just had a feeling that something didn't seem right," she said.

The woman testified that she said, "hello," to Cottingham as she jogged by, and he turned to say hello to her, giving her a good look at his face.

"Almost immediately after I passed him, I heard him begin to run," the woman said.

As she turned around to look, Cottingham grabbed her from behind and threw her down an embankment into a wooded area, the woman said.

The woman said she saw Cottingham holding a knife.

She said she kicked and scratched Cottingham as they struggled on the ground. After a few minutes, Cottingham gave up and fled into the woods on foot, the woman said.

Deputies from the St. Charles County Sheriff's Department apprehended Cottingham about 20 minutes later near the intersection of Holden Road and Highway 94.

Judge Daniel Pelikan denied a request to lower Cottingham's bond, calling him "a substantial risk to the safety of the community."

"It's not lost on the court what could have happened if the victim had not fought and struggled and managed to get away," Pelikan said.

Cottingham will be arraigned in St. Charles County Circuit Court on Dec. 3.

County library acquires rare books

Books called 'godsend' to genealogists

By Rachael Kornblum
Staff writer

During the reign of the Nazis and the times of the Holocaust, entire families, communities and towns were erased.

Now families are trying to recover information about those people and towns.

The St. Louis County Library may be able to help with its recent acquisition of 85 rare Yizkor books.

A Yizkor book is a memorial book that contains a prayer for departed relatives. It also is a book about the memory of a town, or "shtetl," that existed prior to the Holocaust.

During the Holocaust, people's names were taken away from them and they were given numbers as forms of identification. The books provide those names to people studying genealogy and help families complete their histories.

The Yizkor books were written by survivors of the Holocaust in an effort to preserve the histories of their families, friends, neighbors and acquaintances who dis-

appeared. They are written about specific towns and contain information on culture, communities and genealogy of Jewish families.

There are only 1,000 of these books in existence. Sylvia Jaffe and her husband Art are co-founders of the Jewish Genealogical Society of St. Louis, which is affiliated with the United Hebrew Congregation. The Yizkor books are a "godsend" to genealogists, Sylvia Jaffe said.

"It is very difficult to find information on this era," Jaffe said. "It is especially hard to get records in Europe," she added.

The Yizkor books not only list victims' names, but also survivors' names. Some of the books are rich in photographs and list marriages, birth dates and other information about the people of a town. They tell the town's history and often mention neighboring towns.

"These books were written to honor the memory and try to preserve that since towns were destroyed," said Joyce Loving, manager of Joyce

collections for the library.

The library also has maps of where these towns were, since they do not appear on today's modern maps, Loving said.

The St. Louis County Library acquired the books from Ideal Bookstore in New York City. It is one of only four libraries that has such books. The others are the New York Public Library, the University of California-Los Angeles Library and Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem.

The Yizkor books will be available in the special collections area of the library on Tier V. The area includes works that provide information on genealogy and numismatics, the study or collection of old coins. The area eventually will be expanded to include other unique resources.

The Jewish Genealogical Society also is available to help people wishing to learn more about their family histories. People can visit the society's web site at Jewishgen.org.

For more information about the Yizkor books, call 994-3300.

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News

Frank's to participate in fund raiser

Nursery to donate \$1 to foundation for every Christmas tree sold

For the second consecutive year, customers and employees of the local Frank's Nursery & Crafts stores are participating in a program to help find a cure for breast cancer. For every fresh cut Christmas tree sold at the Frank's stores, Frank's will donate \$1 to the Susan G. Komen Foundation, the largest national foundation that focuses only on breast cancer.

Frank's is one of the

largest seller of Christmas trees in the country. All 256 Frank's stores are participating in the fund raiser. A significant portion of the money contributed stays in the local community to help friends and loved ones fighting the disease today, with the remainder going toward continuing research.

Frank's will promote the effort to heighten public awareness over the next several weeks through

their circulars and newspaper advertising which will reach over 22 million people. Breast Health information flyers are being distributed at all the local Frank's Nursery & Crafts stores.

Nancy Brinker, founding chairperson and sister of the late Susan G. Komen said, "We truly appreciate the on-going commitment by Frank's employees and customers to increasing the

awareness of this deadly disease and the financial support that aids the foundation's search to find a cure."

Breast cancer is the No. 1 killer of women ages 35 to 54. The Frank's promotion heightens public awareness and provides a positive impact on a local and national level for this serious health concern.

Florist passes inspection

Shirl K Designs passes FTD standards

Shirl K Floral Designs of Granite City, recently passed a mandatory quality inspection by the FTD Association, an organization of more than 22,000 professional retail florists in the United States and Canada.

The FTD Association has the highest standards of membership in the floral industry and requires its member to adhere to its general requirements for membership in order to use the FTD Mercury Man logo and transfer floral orders within the expansive FTD network.

Shirl K Floral Designs is owned by Carol Pearcy and Kathy Hamilton of Granite City since December 1982, and employs 13 people.

Trees & Poinsettias

by the experts at

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Where Beautiful Things Begin

Fresh-cut trees and poinsettias are a must at many a home during the holidays. And to keep them fresh and enjoyable throughout the season, a little care is required. Here's what you need to know.

The poinsettia plant originated in the warm climates of Mexico, and it definitely favors that hot, humid type of environment. So how can it be popular at Christmas time in the north? Read on.

Poinsettias can survive a St. Louis winter if one requirement is met: Keep them indoors. Your home probably isn't anywhere near as hot as Mexico in mid-summer, but it doesn't have to be. Plant breeding has resulted in poinsettia varieties well suited to the typical home environment.

We don't know if it's a case of the poinsettia loving the heat or hating the cold, but it really doesn't matter. It can handle the transition from store to car to home, but not much more. If you buy a plant and leave it in an unattended car for any length of time, it won't survive. And a "length of time" in this case is no more than a few minutes.

Once you get the plant home, unwrap it and place it in a brightly lit area that's not too cold. It should not be placed in direct sunlight, however. Don't place it near doorways or anywhere else where the possibility of drafts exists. Above all, don't allow the foliage to touch window glass, since this can result in leaf damage. The plant shouldn't be kept near a window anyway.

Caring for your plant is not much different than any other houseplant. Prevent leaf drop by avoiding rapid temperature fluctuations. These are mostly caused by drafts, so if the plant's in a safe place, you'll have little to worry about. As for watering, allow the top one-fourth of the soil to dry between waterings. You should not allow the plant to sit in water.

Tree Care
To properly care for your fresh-cut tree, follow these steps.

Prior to setting the tree up, a fresh cut should be made across the trunk, lopping an inch or so off the bottom. The tree should be placed in a stand full of water within 12 hours of making the cut. If that's not possible, make the cut (or another one) just prior to set-up.

Make sure the tree fits the stand before bringing it inside. Take the stand to the tree and test it first. It's much easier to trim the trunk to size.

Fill the stand with water as soon as the tree is placed in it. It can absorb up to a gallon of water in the first 24 hours; add water as needed. After a day or so, it won't absorb the water as fast, but it will still need water daily.

Don't place the tree near fireplaces, heat registers or any other heat source. Also, it should be kept out of drafts, so near the front door isn't a good location.

Always check lights before placing them on the tree. If any sets show even the slightest signs of damage (frayed cords, loose sockets, etc.), throw them away. New light sets aren't expensive, and they'll give you piece of mind.

As a final reminder, never leave the lights lit when nobody's around. Unplug them when you go to bed or leave the house.

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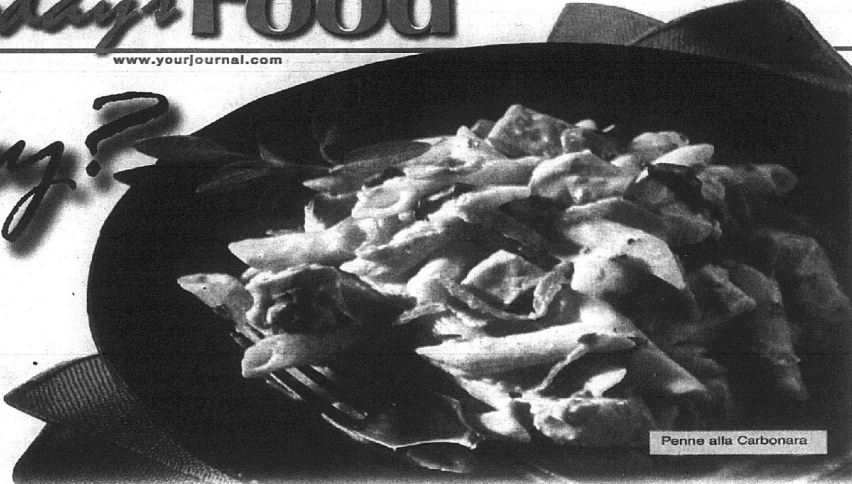
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Penne alla Carbonara

By Janice Denham
Staff writer

Unlike milk, turkey leaves no mustache as proof of its use as the Thanksgiving centerpiece. The aroma from its roasting holds the evidence. It may linger for second or even third invitations.

Turkey sandwiches, turkey soup, turkey salad and turkey terrazzini are classics. But the sky is the limit for next-day nibbles. The "next day" may run up to a month if foods are stored carefully.

Each part of the dinner puzzle should be stored separately in airtight packaging. It should not be left at room temperature more than a total of two hours, lest it lose its safe edge. Hot foods should be cooled down quickly, so

smaller packaging is wise. A carbon copy of today's feast can be reheated in a foil packet.

For each serving, center 1/2 cup stuffing and 1/2 cup mashed potatoes on a 12-by-18-inch sheet of heavy-duty aluminum foil. Top with 3 or 4 slices cooked turkey.

Combine 3/4 cup turkey gravy (from the meal or a jar), 1/8 teaspoon sage or thyme and a pinch of pepper. Spoon the gravy over the turkey. If desired, sprinkle with 1/4 cup dried cranberries.

Bring up sides of foil and double-fold top and ends to seal packet, allowing room for heat circulation. Bake the packets on a cookie sheet 15 to 18 minutes in preheated 450 degree oven.

The packets also can be

frozen up to 4 weeks. Bake them on a cookie sheet 35 to 40 minutes.

Turkey Pot Pie is a bonus from roasted turkey to keep in the freezer for other meals. These, too, can be frozen in heavy-duty aluminum foil to use whenever the occasion arises.

The quickest way to form a pie plate with foil for storage is to press it against the outside of a pie plate turned upside-down, remove the foil, flip over the pie plate and drop the formed foil liner inside.

Spoon a mixture of 2 cups chopped, cooked turkey, 1 jar (12 ounces) turkey gravy, 1 package (10 ounces) frozen peas and carrots or other favorite vegetables, 1/2 teaspoon sage and 1/8 teaspoon pepper into the foil pie plate.

Cover with another sheet of foil. Fold bottom and top foil sheets to make a packet and freeze. Once the pie is frozen solid, remove the pie plate and return the packet to the freezer.

When it is time to bake the pot pie, return the frozen foil packet to the original pie plate and remove the top sheet of foil. Place a refrigerated pie crust over the frozen filling. Fold up excess crust to form an edge and cut slits in the dough to vent steam.

Bake the pie in a preheated 400 degree oven 55 to 60 minutes until the crust is golden brown and filling is hot. If the pie crust starts to brown too much, fold the foil border over the edge.

Color and flavor make an impression when English

muffins are split in half on a baking sheet, spread with cranberry sauce, sprinkled with shredded mozzarella cheese, then topped with a slice of canned pineapple and sprinkled with more mozzarella cheese.

Bake in a preheated 450 oven 10 to 12 minutes until heated through and the cheese melts.

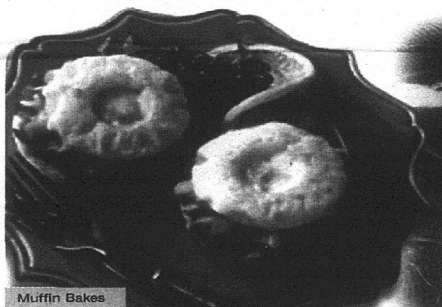
Sources offer more ideas for leftovers that are easy to digest:

Mr. Food and the American Dairy Association have banded together with "Mr. Food's Holiday Leftovers." It is available at the web site www.ilovecheese.com or by sending a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to: Mr. Food's Holiday

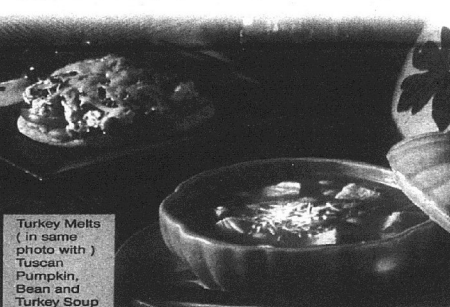
Leftovers, ADA Recipe Leaflets, c/o Inland Marketing Services, P.O. Box 2322, LaCrosse, Wis. 54602-2322.

The Butterball Turkey Talk-Line — toll-free (800) 323-8848 — is available through Dec. 23. Trained staff answers questions from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, with automated assistance available around the clock. The hearing- and speech-impaired assistance line is (800) TDD-3848. For on-line information and questions by e-mail, connect with www.butterball.com.

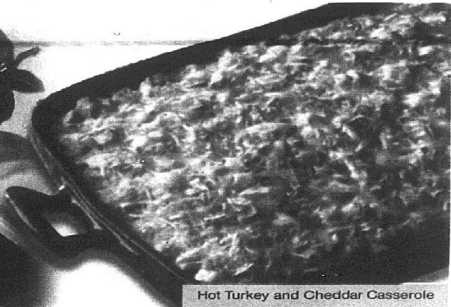
A collection of free recipes and turkey tips is available from the Reynolds Kitchen by calling toll-free (800) 745-4000 or looking at the web site www.reynoldskitchens.com.



Muffin Bakes



Turkey Melts
(In same photo with)
Tuscan Pumpkin, Bean and Turkey Soup



Hot Turkey and Cheddar Casserole

TURKEY CASSEROLE IN BAKED SHELLS

- 6 fajita-size flour tortillas
- 1 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1 medium clove garlic, minced
- 1 tsp. margarine
- 1 can (10 oz.) cheese or broccoli cheese soup
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 2 cups cubed cooked turkey
- 1 cup cooked broccoli florets
- 1 cup sliced cooked carrot
- 1/4 cup sliced green onion

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Lightly brush six (1-cup) custard cups or small ovenproof bowls with softened margarine.

Sauté tortillas by warming briefly in skillet or microwave. Gently push tortilla into cup or bowl. Place on baking sheet.

Sauté mushrooms and garlic in 1 tablespoon margarine. Stir in sour cream. Blend well with turkey, broccoli, carrot and green onion. Spoon 3/4 cup filling into each tortilla shell.

Bake in preheated oven 20 to 25 minutes until filling is hot. Carefully remove shells from cups and serve.

Makes 6 servings.

TUSCAN PUMPKIN, BEAN AND TURKEY SOUP

- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 1/2 lb. celery, finely chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 10 cups turkey, chicken or vegetable broth
- 1 can (15 oz.) pumpkin
- 1 can (15 oz.) cannellini or great Northern beans
- 1/2 cup cooked turkey, coarsely chopped
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- Olive oil for garnish
- Grated fresh cheese for garnish

In soup pot, heat 1 tablespoon oil over medium heat. Sauté onion, celery and garlic, stirring occasionally, 10 minutes until onion is golden and very soft and has begun to brown.

Add pumpkin and bean mixture to smooth, then add turkey. Season with salt and pepper. Simmer about 10 minutes longer until soup is hot.

Serve with 1/2 teaspoon of olive oil drizzled over top of each bowl. Sprinkle with cheese.

Makes 6 servings; 170 mg sodium and 20 mg cholesterol each, based on 6 servings.

HOT TURKEY AND CHEDDAR CASSEROLE

- Butter
- 3 cups (about 16 oz.) cubed (1-inch) cooked turkey
- 3/4 cup chopped celery
- 1 can (5 oz.) sliced water chestnuts, drained
- 1/2 cup chopped red bell pepper
- 1-1/2 cups mayonnaise
- 1 tsp. grated onion
- 2 tbsp. lemon juice
- 2 cups (8 oz.) shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 1 cup cornflakes, crushed

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly coat 12-by-9-inch baking dish with butter.

In medium bowl, combine turkey, celery, water chestnuts and bell pepper. Mayonnaise, onion, lemon juice, 7 cups shredded cheese and 1/2 cup mozzarella cheese. Mix well.

Place mixture in prepared dish. Bake in preheated oven 25 to 30 minutes until cheese is melted.

In medium bowl, combine remaining 1 cup cheddar cheese, 1/2 cup cornflakes and 1/2 cup mayonnaise. Sprinkle over casserole. Bake 5 to 8 minutes longer until cheese melts.

Makes 8 servings.

TURKEY MEATS

- 2 cups cooked turkey, cut in 1/2 inch dice
- 1/2 lb. celery, finely chopped
- 1/2 lb. onion, finely chopped
- 2 tsp. minced fresh cilantro, if desired
- 1/4 cup mango chutney
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- Salt, if desired
- 4 English muffins, split, lightly toasted
- Sliced tomato, if desired
- Fresh sprouts, if desired
- 1 can (8 oz.) shredded sharp cheddar cheese

In bowl, combine turkey, celery, onion, chutney and mayonnaise. Mix in salt. Store in refrigerator.

Arrange English muffins halves on baking sheet. Top with tomato, turkey mixture, fresh sprouts and cheddar cheese. Broil in broiler 3 to 4 minutes until hot and bubbling.

Serve immediately.

Makes 8 open-faced sandwiches; 200 calories, 17 g protein, 1 g fat, 18 g carbohydrate, 300 mg sodium and 0 mg cholesterol each.

CURRIED TURKEY PACKETS

- 2 cans (14.5 oz. each) diced tomatoes
- 1 cup (8 oz.) plain yogurt
- 1 cup (8 oz.) plain whole milk
- 1/2 cup minced green onion
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. curry powder
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 1/2 tsp. turmeric
- 1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- Optional condiments: chopped fresh cilantro, mango chutney, shredded coconut

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Combine tomatoes, turkey, yogurt, onion, garlic, salt, curry powder, turmeric, salt and red pepper. Stir well.

Divide turkey mixture on each of four (12-by-18-inch) sheets of heavy-duty aluminum foil. Bring up sides of foil, pinched and top and ends to seal, leaving room for heat circulation.

Place packets on cookie sheet. Bake over rice. Top with cilantro, chutney and coconut.

Makes 4 servings.

Note: Packets can be frozen up to 4 weeks. Bake frozen packets on cookie sheet 25 to 30 minutes.

PENNE ALLA CARBONARA

- 12 oz. uncooked penne or other tube pasta
- 1 tbsp. butter
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 2 oz. hard or Genoa salami, cut julienne in strips 2 inches long
- 20 small leaves of fresh sage, stems removed
>
- Pinch red pepper flakes
- 1-1/2 cups cooked turkey, cut in small pieces
- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 4 egg yolks
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 cup (4 oz.) freshly grated parmesan cheese
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper, if desired

Cook penne according to package directions.

Melt butter with oil in large skillet over medium-high heat. Cook salami until it begins to brown and be crisp. Add sage and red pepper. Cook 1 minute longer.

Stir in turkey and wine. Cook to heat through. Keep warm over low heat.

Whisk together egg yolks and cream to combine well. Stir in half the cheese. Season with salt and pepper.

Drain pasta. Toss immediately with turkey mixture. Stir in egg mixture. Over low heat, continue stirring 5 to 6 minutes, making thick sauce.

Serve immediately. Sprinkle with remaining cheese.

Makes 6 servings; 420 calories, 25 g protein, 26 g fat, 16 g carbohydrate, 530 mg sodium and 260 mg cholesterol each.

MEDITERRANEAN COUSCOUS

- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1 cup pitted, diced (1/4 inch) carrot
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1-1/2 cups frozen peas, thawed
- 1 bunch scallions or green onions, trimmed, sliced
- 2 cups turkey, chicken or vegetable broth
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 2 cups couscous
- Sliced cooked turkey, warmed

Heat 1/2 cup olive oil over medium-high heat in wide saucepan. Sauté carrot and garlic 5 to 6 minutes until softened. Add scallions, peas and onion. Sauté 2 minutes longer.

Peas in broth. Season with salt and pepper. Bring to boil. Remove from heat. Stir in couscous. Let stand, covered, 10 minutes.

Fluff mixture with spoon. Serve hot alongside sliced turkey.

Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Today's Food

Vegetables snuggle into cooler season

Side dishes for a special meal deserve as much attention as the turkey or roast. The best make good use of seasonal produce, while looking beautiful and tasting great. They also do double duty as main dishes for vegetarians.

The best side-dish recipes dazzle guests without requiring much preparation.

Onions, potatoes and mushrooms are assets to keep on hand.

For instance, mellow colors and flavors of Roasted Mushrooms and Winter Vegetables add up to an attention-getting side dish. It is a snap to prepare.

Simply toss together white mushrooms, shiitake mushrooms, caps, sweet potatoes, onions and garlic, then roast the mixture when convenient. Serve them heaped high in a pretty casserole dish or arrange them around the edge of turkey or roast beef on a platter.

Some people appreciate stuffing more than turkey, so it should be special. Mushroom, Onion and Walnut Stuffing is one appetizing combo that will vanish rapidly from even the most bountiful holiday table.

ROASTED MUSHROOMS WITH WINTER VEGETABLES

12 oz. fresh white mushrooms

4 oz. shiitake mushrooms (or replace with more white mushrooms)
5 medium sweet potatoes (about 2 lb.)
2 medium onions (about 8 oz.)
12 large cloves garlic
1/4 cup olive oil
1 tbsp. chopped fresh or 1-1/2 tsp. crushed dried rosemary
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper

Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
Trim white mushrooms. Remove and discard shiitake stems. Peel and cut sweet potatoes in half lengthwise, then slice 1/2-inch thick. Cut onions in 1/2-inch wedges. Cut garlic cloves in half.

In large bowl, combine oil, rosemary, salt and pepper. Toss with mushrooms, sweet potato, onion and garlic until coated.

In 2 shallow roasting pans, arrange vegetables in single layer. Roast in preheated oven, stirring once, about 25 minutes until tender.

Mixture can be roasted in advance and reheated in hot oven.

Makes 6 servings; 234 calories, 4 g protein, 10 g fat and 35 g carbohydrate each.

MUSHROOM, ONION AND WALNUT STUFFING

1-1/4 lb. fresh white or crimini (brown) mushrooms, trimmed, sliced
3 tbsp. butter or margarine
1 cup coarsely chopped onion
2 cups water
1 pkg. (about 6 oz.) herb-seasoned stuffing mix (about 4 cups)
1/2 cup coarsely chopped walnuts
1/2 cup finely chopped red bell pepper
Salt to taste
Chopped fresh parsley, if desired

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
In large skillet over medium heat, melt 1 tablespoon butter. Cook and stir onion about 5 minutes until tender. Spoon into large bowl.

Melt another tablespoon butter in skillet. Add half the mushrooms. Cook and stir about 5 minutes until golden. Add to onion. Repeat with remaining butter and mushrooms.

Add water to skillet. Stir to loosen-browned bits. Pour into mushroom mixture. Stir in stuffing mix, walnuts, pepper and salt.

Spoon into shallow 2- to 3-quart casserole. Bake in preheated oven about 45 minutes until brown and crisp on top. Sprinkle with parsley.

Yields 6 servings; 237 calories, 7 g protein, 10 g fat and 31 g carbohydrate each.



Mushrooms, sweet potatoes and onions get a push from rosemary for a flavorful roast.

Top timeless casserole with onion or creativity

Some people come home just for the Classic Green Bean Casserole. Others wish they could replace it with a new tradition.

Now everyone has an opportunity to give it a try.

Eager cooks can enter their own variation of this tempting holiday favorite in the "Can You Top the Green Bean Casserole?" contest, sponsored by French's french-fried onions.

To enter, create an original main dish or side dish using at least 1-1/3 cups of french-fried onions.

Send the recipe by Dec. 30 to: French's "Can You Top the Green Bean Casserole" Contest, 411 Park St., Upper Montclair, N.J. 07043.

Here's the classic recipe and an upstart for inspiration.

soup
3/4 cup milk
1/8 tsp. pepper
2 pkg. (9 oz. each) frozen cut green beans, thawed, or 2 cans (14.5 oz. each) cut green beans, drained
1-1/2 cups french fried onions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
In 1-1/2-quart casserole, stir together soup, milk and pepper until well blended. Stir in beans and 2/3 cup onions.

Bake in preheated oven 30 minutes or until hot. Stir. Sprinkle with remaining 2/3 cup onions. Bake 5 minutes longer or until onions are golden.

Makes 6 servings.

2 tbsp. soy sauce
1 tbsp. olive oil
1 clove garlic, minced
1 lb. fresh green beans, sliced diagonally
1 cup frozen corn
1/4 cup water
1 tbsp. cornstarch
1 cup plus 2 tbsp. french-fried onions
Cooked rice

In bowl, combine pork, soy sauce, olive oil and garlic. Cover. Marinate in refrigerator 20 minutes.

Heat oil in large skillet. Add pork. Cook about 10 minutes, tossing until brown. Add green beans and corn. Cook, covered, about 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Combine water and cornstarch. Mix thoroughly. Add to mixture in skillet with 1 cup onions. Bring to boil. Cook 2 minutes or until sauce thickens.

Serve over rice. Sprinkle each serving with a few onions.

Makes 4 servings.



A contest offers opportunity to improve on the Classic Green Bean Casserole - although traditionalists say it is impossible.

CLASSIC GREEN BEAN CASSEROLE

1 can (10-3/4 oz.) cream of mushroom

ORIENTAL PORK AND BEANS

1 lb. pork tenderloin, cut in 1 inch cubes

STARRY ORANGE SURPRISE

1 can (15.25 oz.) cosmic or sea creatures shaped pineapple ice cubes
1-1/2 cups boiling water
1 pkg. (8 servings) orange gelatin
1 tub (8 oz.) frozen whipped topping, thawed

Drain pineapple, reserving juice. Add ice to juice to make 2 cups.

In bowl, stir boiling water into gelatin at least 2 minutes until dissolved. Stir in juice mixture. Continue stirring until ice is melted.

Pour 2-1/2 cups of gelatin into bowl. Stir in pineapple fun shapes. Reserve at room temperature.

Stir half the whipped topping into remaining gelatin until smooth. Divide among 10 dessert cups or spoon into 2-quart bowl. Refrigerate 10 minutes or until set but not firm (sticks to finger when touched).

Spoon gelatin-mixture with pineapple over gelatin in bowl.

Refrigerate 4 hours or until firm. Garnish with remaining whipped topping.

Makes 10 servings; 160 calories, 4 g fat, no cholesterol, 41 mg sodium, 27 g carbohydrate and 2 g protein each.

CHOCOLATE CHIP PECAN PIE

3 eggs, slightly beaten
1-1/4 cups corn syrup
Pinch of salt
1 tsp. vanilla
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup pecan halves
1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
1 unbaked (9-inch) pie shell

MARIACHI DRUMSTICKS

In large resealable plastic bag, combine 1-1/4 cups crushed tortilla chips and 1 package taco seasoning.

shell
1 cup whipped cream or topping

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
Combine eggs, corn syrup, salt, vanilla and sugar. Mix well. Stir in pecans and chocolate chips. Pour into unbaked pie shell.
Bake in preheated oven about 55 minutes, or until pie is set. Cool.
Serve topping on pie. Makes 8 servings.

Dampen 2 dozen chicken drumettes with water and shake off excess. Place a few pieces at a time in bag. Seal and shake thoroughly to coat with chips.

Arrange in greased shallow baking pan. Bake in preheated 350 degree oven 30 to 40 minutes until crisp.

SUGARED SOFT GINGER BARS

1-1/4 cups granulated sugar
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
1 egg
3 tbsp. molasses
1 tsp. vanilla
3 cups flour
1 tsp. baking soda
2 tsp. cinnamon
1-1/2 tsp. ground ginger
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. ground cloves
3 tbsp. coarse decorator sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease 15-by-10-inch jellyroll pan.

In large bowl, beat granu-

lated sugar and butter, using electric mixer at medium speed and scraping bowl often, 1 to 2 minutes until well mixed. Add egg, molasses and vanilla. Continue beating, scraping bowl often, until well mixed.

Reduce speed to low. Add combined flour, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger, salt and cloves. Continue beating, scraping bowl often, until well mixed.

Press dough into prepared pan. Sprinkle decorator sugar on top. Bake in preheated oven 16 to 20 minutes until golden brown.

Cool completely. Cut in desired shapes with knife or cookie cutters.

Makes 48 bars.

Ginger Hang-Ups:

Carefully make hole in top of bars with drinking straw.

Cool. Thread 1/8-inch ribbon through hole and tie bow.

Today's Food

Stand tall for being American as mustard

By Dana Jacobi
Correspondent

Markets sell Dijon mustard made in the U.S. plus imported from France. But be proud about bright yellow, turmeric-rich mustard and the spicier, brown mustard sold next to it. Their land of origin is the good ol' United States of America.

An American, George T. French, first made them in

1904 for the R.T. French Co. of Rochester, N.Y. Mustards have proliferated.

A mail order catalog offers a green chile and garlic flavor, another with sesame, ginger and scallion, and a third flavored with onion and bacon. Still, "ball-park" mustard remains the favorite.

For squirting on a hot dog and adding spark to meat-loaf, nothing can replace the classic. Even a veggie burger tastes more satisfying sandwiched with a dollop of mildly sharp yellow mustard. Stuffed eggs and egg salad profit from the faintly sweet warmth of brown mustard.

Americans love sweet mustards, although others get credit for their invention.

The French mixed honey into mustard back in the 1700s, while the Scots added heather honey. Today, "honey mustard" deceptively describes a product sweetened solely with brown sugar or corn syrup or one containing a token amount of actual honey. Fortunately, these products usually taste good.

Honey mustards go well with poultry and salmon. The time savers blend with

ketchup and orange juice for an instant glaze. Add touches of molasses and vinegar and presto! — it becomes barbecue sauce.

Making a delicious honey mustard dip is as simple as mixing mustard with mayonnaise. However, this recipe version is a sauce with dill and lime juice that Scandinavians serve with gravlax, a pickled salmon. With few calories, no cholesterol or fat and the ability to enhance flavors instantly, mustard is a boon.

Barry Levinson, president of the Mount Horeb Mustard Museum in Wisconsin, calls it "a freebie in your diet for getting lots of flavor."

Cookbook author Dana Jacobi submits this material for the American Institute for Cancer Research in Washington, D.C. She created the recipes for AICR's book, "Stopping Cancer Before It Starts."



Honey Mustard Sauce is an easy fix for simple flavors that need pep.

HONEY MUSTARD SAUCE

1/2 cup honey mustard

1/4 cup fat-free mayonnaise
2 tbsp. chopped fresh dill
1 tbsp. fresh lime juice
1/4 tsp. salt
Freshly ground pepper

In small bowl, combine mustard, mayonnaise, dill, lime juice and salt. Season to taste with pepper. Cover with plastic wrap. Before serving, let sauce sit at least 20 minutes or refrigerate overnight. Serve with roasted and grilled poultry, meats and

seafood, including salmon, gravlax and shrimp.

Makes 1 cup, 31 calories and 2 g fat per 1-tablespoon serving.

PASTA AND CRAB CAESAR SALAD

1/4 cup white wine vinegar
2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
Juice of 1 lemon
1/2 cup olive oil (garlic-flavored preferred)

1/4 cup freshly grated parmesan cheese, plus more for garnish
8 oz. uncooked fusilli (corkscrew-shaped) pasta
2 cans (6 oz. each) lump crabmeat, rinsed, drained, flaked
1/2 cup sliced mushrooms
1/2 cup sliced carrot

1/4 cup pitted black olives, sliced
2 tbsp. chopped fresh parsley
Salad greens

In small bowl, combine vinegar, Worcestershire sauce and lemon juice. Slowly whisk in olive oil. Add 1/4 cup parmesan cheese.

Cook pasta according to

manufacturer's directions. Drain, rinse with cool water, then drain again.

In large bowl, combine pasta, crabmeat, mushrooms, carrots, olives and parsley. Add dressing. Mix well.

Serve on seafood mixture on bed of greens. Sprinkle top with parmesan cheese. Makes 4 servings.

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Today's Food

Variety is the core of apple enjoyment

Apples hit their prime when they are picked, but the season is long-lasting and storage for apples is among the best. It lets the crispy, sweet, juicy assets of the fruit last far beyond their life on trees.

Many states provide favorite commercial varieties, including traditional Jonathan, McIntosh, Red Delicious, Northern Spy, Ida Red, Rome and Golden Delicious. Michigan, a leader in varietal apples, grows other new varieties, like Empire, Gala, Jonagold, Braeburn, Spartan, Ginger Gold, Fuji, Jonamac and Honeycrisp.

Michigan also supplies the processed apple industry with the apples for juice, cider, sauce and pie filling. More information about them, including recipes for apples and apple beverages, is available at the web site <http://MichiganApples.com>.

Finding uses for apples this time of year is not difficult.

Waldorf Salad has staying power. This version is low in fat and sodium.

Rich Apple Praline Pie has a crunchy layer with pecans in the bottom and on top of the fruit. It can be served warm with ready-to-

go whipped cream from an aerosol can.

It is one of 50 winning fruit recipes from a Reddi-Wip contest. The pie winner from Washington and the other 50 states is in a booklet available by sending a check for \$1.50 for postage, plus name, address and zip code printed on a 3-by-5-inch card to: 50 Fruit Salute Recipe Collection, P.O. Box 806, Department R, Riverton, N.J. 08077-0806. Its web site www.reddi-wip.com also has recipes and entertaining ideas.

WALDORF SALAD

4 cups cubed red-skinned apples
1 cup halved green grapes
2/3 cup sliced celery
1/2 cup broken walnuts, if desired
1/2 cup frozen reduced fat whipped topping, thawed
1/4 cup reduced fat mayonnaise

Thoroughly combine all ingredients. Serve immediately.

ately or chill 1 hour. Yields six (2/3 cup) servings; 100 calories, 3 g fat, no cholesterol, 20 g carbohydrate, 29 mg sodium and 3 g dietary fiber each.

APPLE PRALINE PIE

1/2 cup flour
1/4 cup packed brown sugar
1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter or margarine
1/2 cup chopped pecans
Unbaked (9 inch) single-crust pastry shell
4 cups chopped, peeled, cored cooking apples (Jonathan, McIntosh, Rome, Golden Delicious suggested)
1/2 cup granulated sugar
2 tsp. quick-cooking tapioca
1 tsp. lemon juice
Whipped cream

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. In medium bowl, combine



Fresh apples served in salad, like a Waldorf, should be treated gently to prevent bruising. They can be stored at room temperature, but keep longer - for weeks - in a refrigerator.

flour and brown sugar. Using fork, cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in pecans. Place one-third crumb mixture in bottom of unbaked crust. In second bowl, combine

apples, granulated sugar, tapioca and lemon juice. Let stand 20 minutes. Spoon apple mixture on top of crumbs in crust. Top with remaining crumbs. Bake in preheated oven 10 minutes. Reduce oven tem-

perature to 350 degrees. Bake 20 minutes longer or until apples are tender and topping is golden. Serve warm with whipped cream on top. Makes 8 servings.

CONVECTION-BAKED STROGANOFF

1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter or margarine
2 lb. bottom round beef steak, cut in thin strips
1 large onion, thinly sliced
8 oz. mushrooms, sliced
2 tbsp. flour
1 clove garlic, minced
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1/4 cup dry red wine
1/4 cup tomato paste
1 bay leaf
1 cup beef broth
1/2 cup sour cream
Chopped fresh parsley for garnish

In wide skillet over medium heat, melt 2 tablespoons butter. Cook beef, half at a time, browning all sides. Transfer strips as they brown to deep 3-quart baking pan.

In same skillet, melt remaining 2 tablespoons butter. Cook onion and mushrooms until golden. Remove pan from heat.

Mix in flour, garlic, salt, pepper, wine, tomato paste, bay leaf and broth. Stir until blended.

Pour mixture over meat. Cover tightly. Bake in 250 degree convection oven about 4 hours or until meat is very tender.

Mix in sour cream. Sprinkle with parsley.

Makes 6 servings.

CHARLESTON RICE

Cook 1/2 cup coarsely chopped onion, 1/2 cup chopped celery and 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper in 1 tablespoon margarine until tender.

Add 3 cups cooked rice, 1 can (2-1/2 ounces) mushrooms (drained and chopped), 1/2 teaspoon poultry seasoning, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1/4 teaspoon celery seed and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Thoroughly stir in 1 egg, beaten before mixing.

Spoon into lightly greased, shallow, 1-1/2-quart casserole. Cover. Bake in preheated 350 degree oven 15 minutes.

Makes 6 servings; 125 calories, 3 g protein, 3 g fat, 21 g carbohydrate and 472 mg sodium each, made with fat- and sodium-free broth.

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by Mark A. Yates, OD Illinois Eye Specialists

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Today's Food

Invite lovable spuds to party of favorites

By Lisa Gassmann
Correspondent

This time of year with Thanksgiving as a prelude, family and friends gather

HEARTY BITES

for delicious, abundant home-cooked meals. The crowd races for grandma's mashed potatoes, but potatoes are a party mainstay any time of year.

Potatoes differ in the amount of starch they hold, so they must be purchased

according to their use.

Idaho russets have a high starch content, so they are good for baking, roasting and mashing. They make wonderful croquettes, twice-baked potatoes, roasted garlic mashed potatoes and gnoc-chi.

Lower-starch potatoes are also called "new" potatoes. These varieties have a thin red or white skin, more moisture and, sometimes, waxy skins. They are best used boiled or in salad or creamy soup.

Medium starch or all-purpose potatoes fall between the two. Still too starchy for simple boiling, they provide good, if not ideal, results when mashed, baked, roasted, scalloped, stewed or cut in salad.

These all-purpose potatoes also can be used for casseroles, zesty stir-fries and widely-used favorites, like garlic-rosemary potatoes, skinny fries and golden mashed potatoes.

Common all-purpose potatoes are eastern round whites, California long whites and Yukon golds.

Sweet potatoes color the

family brilliantly orange when baked. They taste good mashed, roasted and many other ways white potatoes and winter squash are prepared.

Not only are potatoes versatile and easy to use, but they provide nutrients. Potatoes are fat-free and cholesterol-free with almost no sodium. A medium white potato eaten with the skin contains about 200 calories. They are a good source of fiber, vitamin C and other vitamins and minerals. Sweet potatoes come with a load of vitamin A.

To keep the potato flavorful and healthy, try toppings and recipe substitutions like fat-free ranch dressing or sour cream, low-fat or skim milk, parmesan cheese, plain yogurt, low-fat cheese, chicken broth and salsa.

For a change from traditional mashed potatoes, try this recipe from the "American Medical Association Family Health Cookbook - Good Food That's Good for You." It will add spice to the next holiday party.

Lisa Gassmann is a dietet-

ic intern at Veterans Hospital writing on behalf of the nutrition committee of the American Heart Association, Greater St. Louis Division.

GOLDEN SCALLOPED
POTATOES WITH
CHIVES

- 1 clove garlic, cut in half
- 1 tsp. margarine
- 1 medium onion, thinly sliced
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 3/4 tsp. pepper, plus additional to taste
- 2-1/2 lb. Yukon gold potatoes, peeled, thinly sliced
- 2 tsp. flour
- 2 cups (1 percent) milk
- 1 cup reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 3 tbsp. snipped chives

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Lightly coat 2-quart

baking dish with nonstick cooking spray (olive oil, if desired) and rub with cut sides of garlic.

Melt margarine in medium skillet. Over medium heat, cook onion, stirring often, about 4 minutes until it begins to soften. Add salt and 3/4 teaspoon pepper. Stir to combine.

Cover bottom of baking dish with one-third potatoes. Spread with half the onion mixture and sprinkle with 1 tablespoon flour. Make another layer of half the remaining potatoes. Spread with remaining onion and flour. Top with last of the potatoes.

Heat milk and broth to simmer. Pour over potatoes until liquid comes just to top of potatoes. Sprinkle with pepper.

Bake in preheated oven 50 to 60 minutes until potatoes are soft and most of liquid is absorbed.

Sprinkle with chives before serving.

Makes 6 servings; 215 calories, 2 g fat (1 g saturated), 5 mg cholesterol and 273 mg sodium each.

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**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS!**

By Mary Schroeffer
Correspondent

Meals in minutes are the norm in families. Leftovers

days should be frozen, rather than refrigerated, for best quality.

Rely on leftovers for future meals. Stock the freezer with turkey, dressing, sweet potatoes and desserts - all individually wrapped airtight and dated in heavy-duty aluminum foil, freezer bags or freezer boxes.

Add thawed and cooked turkey to casseroles, soups, sandwiches and salads for a quick main dish. For best flavor use stuffing within one month, turkey within two months. Replace canned pumpkin with an equal amount of pureed sweet potatoes in pies and pumpkin bread.

Wise Ways home economists share favorite recipes using remains of the feast. Apple-Pie Turkey Salad is a specialty of Jananne Finck. Quick Turkey Soup is an annual event for my family.

Home economist Mary Schroeffer is nutrition specialist with University

invite creativity to use this bonus in the refrigerator. Turkey slices or stuffing

WISE WAYS

planned for use in three

Extension (University of Missouri system) in Franklin County.

APPLE-PIE TURKEY
SALAD

- 2-1/4 cups cubed, cooked turkey
- 2 cups diced celery
- 2 cups cored, diced granny Smith apple
- 1/4 to 1/2 cup raisins
- 2 tbsp. light mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp. plain or vanilla low-fat yogurt
- 1/4 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/4 to 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- Salt and pepper, if desired

In large bowl, combine turkey, celery, unpeeled apple and raisins. In small bowl, combine mayonnaise, yogurt, nutmeg and cinnamon. Fold into turkey mixture. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Makes 4 servings; 150 calories, 16 g protein, 13 g carbohydrate, 4 g fat, 41 mg cholesterol and 102 mg sodium each. Food exchanges: 2 meat, 1 fruit, 1/2 vegetable,

1/2 fat.

QUICK TURKEY SOUP

- 8 cups turkey broth
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 2 carrots, peeled, minced
- 1 rib celery, thinly sliced
- 2 oz. uncooked egg noodles
- 1 cup finely chopped, cooked turkey
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 tbsp. finely chopped fresh parsley

Bring broth to boil. Add onion, carrot and celery. Simmer 15 to 20 minutes until vegetables are tender.

Add pasta and turkey. Cook 5 to 10 minutes longer until pasta is tender. Add salt and pepper. Stir in parsley.

Serve hot. Makes 5 servings; 153 calories, 14 g protein and 5 g fat each.

Note: To reduce cooking time, microwave chopped vegetables 2 minutes on high power or until wilted. Add to hot turkey broth.

my **WOL FM KHITS96** Suburban Journals

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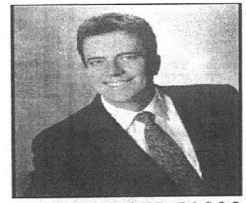
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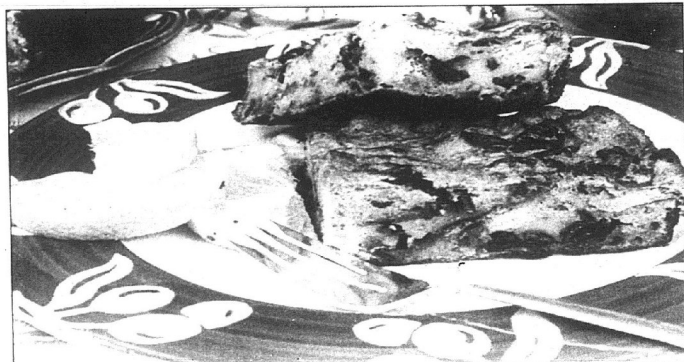
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Today's Food

Feast can end when thin lady sings



Pudding gets sweet flavor from bread flavored with cinnamon.

Alternative endings to traditional holiday meals may seem like heresy. Still, people

GOOD FOOD: GOOD HEALTH

who look for a little adventure have help from health-conscious cooks who serve delicious alternatives to revered pies, cookies and

cakes.

Here are ideas that fit the temperate palate:

- When a meal needs pumpkin for a finale, bake a fluted spice cake with pumpkin puree, unsweetened applesauce and egg whites to keep fat at a minimum. Drizzle with a mixture of confectioner's sugar, skim milk and vanilla extract.

- Pumpkin cheesecake - made with low-fat graham cracker crust, pumpkin, fat-free cream cheese and traditional seasonings of nutmeg, ginger and cloves - satisfies the sweet tooth.
- Simple fruit desserts finish a big meal pleasantly. Cook dried apricots and pitted prunes, raisins, sliced lemon and chunks of pears

and apples with lemon juice, a cinnamon stick, maple syrup and apple juice. The apple and pear should be quite tender. Serve it warm or at room temperature.

- To bring Native American influence to the table, make classic Indian pudding. Recipes are in many cookbooks for the custard made with scalded skim milk, honey and dark molasses, cornmeal, ginger, cinnamon and nutmeg.

This recipe for Cinnamon Raisin Bread Pudding comes from the American Institute for Cancer Research's book, "Stopping Cancer Before It Starts."

Banana, raisins and dried currants give this dessert natural sweetness. Raisin bread helps add sweet flavor to the dish in a snap, definitely a plus for busy cooks preparing other special dishes.

This material is prepared by the American Institute for Cancer Research in Washington, D.C. Nutrition questions are answered by a dietitian on the AICR hotline 1-800-843-8114 within 48 hours of the call.

CINNAMON RAISIN BREAD PUDDING

8 slices cinnamon-raisin bread
1/4 cup dried currants
2 tsp. grated orange zest
2 bananas
1-1/2 cups low-fat milk
1/2 cup lightly packed brown sugar
2 eggs
1 tsp. vanilla
1/8 tsp. nutmeg (see Note)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat 8-inch square baking dish with nonstick cooking spray.

Tear each bread slice into 8 pieces. In large bowl, combine with currants and orange zest.

In blender, puree bananas

to make about 1 cup. Add milk, sugar, eggs, vanilla and nutmeg. Blend until well combined. Pour over bread. Using rubber spatula, mix until well combined.

Pour bread mixture into prepared baking dish. Let sit 15 minutes.

Bake in preheated oven about 30 minutes until slightly puffed and knife inserted in center comes out clean. Let sit 30 minutes before serving, or cool until lukewarm.

Note: Freshly grated nutmeg yields more flavor than the ground. Whole nutmeg keeps for years.

Makes 6 servings, 239 calories and 4 g fat each.

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TURKEY FAJITAS

2 cups cubed cooked turkey
2 tbsp. lime juice
1 tbsp. soy sauce
1/2 tsp. garlic powder
1/2 tsp. chili powder
1 medium onion, sliced, separated in rings
1 green bell pepper, seeded, cubed
Flour tortillas, warmed

In glass bowl, combine lime juice, soy sauce, garlic powder, chili powder, onion and green pepper. Set aside 20 minutes.

In skillet coated with non-stick cooking spray, cook onion, pepper and marinade over medium heat until vegetables are tender and marinade evaporates. Stir frequently to prevent browning. Add turkey halfway through cooking. Heat through.

Serve with warm tortillas.

Makes 4 servings.

APPLE-STUFFED MEATBALLS

8 oz. turkey sausage
8 oz. low-fat ground turkey breast
1 cup plain bread crumbs
1/2 tsp. ground sage
1 medium apple, shredded
1 egg, beaten
1/2 cup chopped onion
1 cup currant jelly
1/2 cup hot water

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

In bowl, combine sausage, ground turkey, bread crumbs, sage, apple, egg and onion. Mix well. Form into meatballs.

In skillet, lightly brown meatballs on all sides. Remove from skillet. Drain.

Place meatballs in 3-quart casserole. Combine jelly with water. Pour over meatballs. Bake, covered, in preheated oven 45 minutes.

Makes 6 servings.

FAJITA-STYLE BEEF WRAPS

8 oz. top beef sirloin steak
1 pkg. (1.27 oz.) fajita seasoning
2 tbsp. oil
1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper
1 cup thinly sliced red onion
1/2 can (15 oz. size) garbanzo beans, drained
1 tomato, quartered, thinly sliced
8 flour tortillas (6 inch diameter) or 12 smaller (4 inch) flour tortillas

Using fork, pierce steak several times. In small bowl, mix together fajita seasoning and oil. Spread 1 teaspoon seasoning paste evenly over each side of steak.

For more intense flavor, cover and refrigerate steak 30 minutes before cooking. Broil or grill meat to desired doneness. Slice in

thin strips.

In large bowl, combine green pepper, onion, beans, tomato, steak and remaining seasoning. Stir to coat evenly.

Place 1/2 to 1/3 cup beef mixture on each tortilla, fold in sides and roll up to enclose filling. Wrap each burrito in plastic wrap. Refrigerate.

Makes 8 large or 12 medium wraps.

Note: Filled wraps can be refrigerated overnight.

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Today's Food

Combo ovens, practical helps dawn in microwaves

By Kathy Hanewinkel
Correspondent

So it's time to buy a new microwave. Maybe the old one died after a dutiful life and the time is ripe to ask for one as a holiday "surprise."

Like many appliances, the average life span is 10 to 20 years, but can vary. One I bought in 1976 still cooks after a single change of a light bulb. Many people buy a

second one now for the kitchen, den, office, basement or dorm room.

Here's the scoop.

Most microwave ovens have not changed with huge flags and whistles in the last 10 years. It is easy to pick an oven with favorite features that will be used. Many individual features come without much, if any, additional cost.

The newest microwave oven is the GE Advantium combination. What makes it new is the halogen part of the oven.

A halogen oven cooks with a powerful, bright light about 75 percent faster than conventional heat. It can be used as a halogen oven, a microwave oven with 950 watts of power or in combination.

The oven's price reflects its position as the latest, top-of-the-line unit. It requires a dedicated 240V line, whereas a simple microwave oven uses a dedicated 110-120V line.

The Advantium, now available above the cooktop with a

fan, soon will come in a wall oven configuration.

Microwave ovens combined with convection or conventional ovens, commonly available, can be used for their individual components - even as a toaster oven in some countertop models - in alternating modes.

These ovens cost a little more than a simple microwave. They seem a little more difficult to clean, too.

Automatic sensor ovens sense the amount of humidity released by a product and signal the product is done. Nearly every brand has at least one model - some available for about \$100 - with this feature developed about 15 years ago. The cook only punches in information about the food and covers the dish.

A few models contain a scale. When a cook tells the oven what is being cooked, the oven weighs it and figures the timing.

All magnetrons operate on wattage from 400 to 1500. The higher the number, the quicker and more powerfully it operates. A 1500-watt oven

boils a cup of water in about a minute, while it will take a 400-watt oven more than 3 minutes. This is why some office microwave ovens take a long time to heat a frozen entrée.

Personal taste and space determine size to buy. One that can hold a 3-quart or 13-by-9-inch dish is a good choice. Accommodating this size in both directions makes it even more useful.

One end of a temperature probe is inserted into the food, the other end plugged into the oven. The oven is set for a desirable internal temperature or degree of doneness of the food. The oven signals when it is reached.

A "hold" mode keeps food warm when it has finished cooking.

When a "popcorn" button is pressed, it starts cooking one package of microwave popcorn.

The common auto defrost feature calculates time and power levels for defrosting, based on the type and amount (weight) of food. This helpfully prompts the user to turn over, break

apart, shield, cover or stand a food.

A "beverage" or "plate" feature automatically heats up a drink or plate of food to hot when pressed.

"Instant" or "auto on" automatically turns on an oven. This can be dangerous if nothing is in the oven and no one remembers to turn off the oven.

"Delay start" allows early programming of the oven for cooking later. This should not be used for food that is vulnerable to bacteria at room temperature.

For a touch of a "minute plus" or "add a minute" button, the oven cooks on high power one minute or adds a minute to the time running.

The helpful "pause" stops the oven for turning, stirring, covering or adding foods.

Multiple power levels allow flexible cooking of many foods.

A timer and a clock are handy, too.

Home economist Kathy Hanewinkel specializes in microwave cooking.

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2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
Juice of 1 lemon
1/2 cup olive oil (garlic-flavored preferred)
1/4 cup freshly grated parmesan cheese, plus more for garnish

nish
8 oz. uncooked fusilli (corkscrew-shaped) pasta
2 cans (6 oz. each) lump crabmeat, rinsed, drained, flaked
1/2 cup sliced mushrooms
1/2 cup sliced carrot
1/4 cup pitted black olives, sliced
2 tbsp. chopped fresh parsley
Salad greens

HOLIDAY YULE LOG

3 eggs
3/4 cup sugar
1/3 cup water
1/2 tsp. orange extract
2 tsp. grated orange rind
1 cup cake flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1/4 tsp. salt
Confectioner's sugar
Caramel-Orange Cream Cheese Buttercream

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Line greased 15-by-10-inch jellyroll pan with parchment paper; grease paper.

In medium bowl, beat

eggs at high speed of electric mixer 2 minutes. Gradually beat in sugar 3 to 5 minutes until very thick and yellow. Mix in water, orange extract and orange rind.

Combine flour, baking powder and salt. Mix into creamed mixture. Spread batter evenly in prepared pan. Bake in preheated oven 10 to 12 minutes until cake is golden and springs back when touched.

Loosen cake from sides of pan. Immediately invert pan on kitchen towel sprinkled with confectioner's sugar. Remove parchment paper. Roll up cake and towel, beginning at long edge. Place on wire rack to cool completely.

To assemble, carefully unroll cake. Spread with 1-1/2 cups filling. Roll up cake. Cut generous 1-inch slice of cake from each end. Place cake roll on serving plate and frost with remaining buttercream. Place cake ends on

In small bowl, combine vinegar, Worcestershire sauce and lemon juice. Slowly whisk in olive oil. Add 1/4 cup parmesan cheese.

Cook pasta according to manufacturer's directions. Drain, rinse with cool water, then drain again.

In large bowl, combine pasta, crabmeat, mushrooms, carrots, olives and parsley. Add dressing. Mix well.

Serve on seafood mixture on bed of greens. Sprinkle top with parmesan cheese. Makes 12 servings.

cake by attaching with wooden picks, and frost. Use lines of fork to make "bark" texture on frosting.

Caramel-Orange Cream Cheese Buttercream: In medium saucepan over medium heat, heat 3/4 cup granulated sugar until it melts and turns golden, stirring occasionally and being careful to avoid it burning.

Add 3/4 cup orange juice and 1 tablespoon grated orange rind. Heat to boiling over medium heat, stirring to dissolve caramel mixture. Strain and discard orange rind. Return syrup to saucepan. Cook to 230 degrees on candy thermometer. Cool to room temperature.

Beat 2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese and 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter until smooth. Beat in caramel mixture and 3/4 cup confectioner's sugar until smooth and fluffy.

SHELL TURKEY SALAD

Cook 8 ounces shell macaroni according to package directions. Drain well. Cool. Combine with 2 tablespoons minced onion, 2 cups chopped celery, 1/3 cup

sweet pickle relish, 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper, 1/2 cup whole stuffed olives and 2 cups diced cooked turkey. Pour combined 1/2 cup mayonnaise and 2 teaspoons prepared mustard on top. Toss until well coated. Chill. Serve on lettuce leaves. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

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Today's Food

Peanut butter puffs melt inside cookies

Laura Jezorski, Valley Park, wins a prize of dinner certificates at the Pasta House Co. for Chocolate Peanut Butter Cookies.

She clipped the recipe for this rich and fudgy cookie from a newspaper in Chicago about 10 years ago and brought it with her when she moved.

It is a signature cookie for her. Not only do people ask for the recipe, but they request them to be on her cookie tray when they are going to be guests.

For convenience, the recipe can be doubled and the dough refrigerated a day or two before baking. The amount of peanut butter cups can vary, but the more and larger the chunks, the better the cookies, according to her friends.

This is the last week for submitting a recipe for a chicken or turkey casserole recipe. It should be postmarked by Tuesday (Nov. 30) to be considered a possible winner one of the five Wednesdays in December. Do double duty: Type a favorite recipe used this weekend for extras from the holiday bird and send it to the contest to possibly win a

meal outside the kitchen. A single recipe should be sent to: Chicken or Turkey Casserole Recipe Contest, Suburban Journals, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis 63131. It also can be e-mailed to westwinners@primary.net.

Winners will be chosen from entries on the basis of taste and eye appeal, as well as originality, although the recipe need not be original.

As usual, the history of the recipe will be considered part of the entry. If possible, name the recipe's source. Type or print the recipe legibly on one side of the paper. Include name, address and telephone number on the entry. Name the Journal you receive.

Double-check the recipe as it is written for both amounts and directions. Include any variations that make this dish special.

Winners are notified by mail. Duplicate entries will be considered on the basis of earlier entry or best compliance with the rules. Contest winners may enter again six months after their prize-winning publication date.

CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

8 oz. semisweet chocolate
1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter
1-1/2 cups flour
1/2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
2 eggs
3/4 cup sugar
1-1/2 tsp. vanilla
8 chocolate peanut butter cups (such as Reese's), cut in chunks

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Melt chocolate with butter in microwave oven or in top of double boiler on stovetop. Let cool slightly. Stir together flour, baking powder and salt.

Using electric mixer, beat eggs, sugar and vanilla until light and fluffy. Add cooled chocolate. Mix well. Add dry ingredients. Mix until just combined. Gently fold peanut butter cups into batter.

Drop by large spoonful onto ungreased baking sheets. Bake in preheated oven 9 to 12 minutes.

Cool on baking sheets 1 minute, then transfer to wire rack to cool completely.

Yields 3 to 3-1/2 dozen.

SIX-BEAN SOUP

2 envelopes (2 oz. each) chicken noodle soup mix
1 cup chopped onion
1 cup chopped celery
1 cup chopped carrot
1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper
1/2 cup minced parsley
1 clove garlic, crushed, minced
2 qt. water
1/2 bay leaf, crumbled
1/2 tsp. fines herbs
2/3 cup each cooked or canned baby lima beans, small white beans, black-eyed peas, garbanzo beans, pink beans and light red kidney beans
1 cup fresh or canned tomatoes, chopped
Grated parmesan cheese

FAST FIESTA CHILI

1 lb. Italian sausage, casing removed
1 can (14.5 oz.) diced tomatoes and green chilies
1 cup thick and chunky salsa
1 pkg. (1 oz.) Tex-Mex chili seasoning mix
2 cans (15.5 oz. each) chili beans
1 can (11 oz.) corn with red and green peppers, drained
Shredded cheddar cheese for garnish, if desired

In large skillet over medium heat, cook sausage until it is browned, stirring to crumble meat. Drain. Stir in tomatoes and green chilies, salsa, seasoning mix, beans and corn and peppers. Simmer 15 minutes.

Ladle into serving bowls. Top with shredded cheese.

Makes 6 servings.

This is a winner in the Great American Chili Recipe Contest. For complete rules for this year's contest and more award-winning recipes, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Great American Chili Recipe Contest, Williams Foods Inc., P.O. Box 14067, Lenexa, Kan. 66285.

Cook onion, celery, carrot, green pepper, parsley and garlic in nonstick pan until soft. Combine cooked vegetables with soup mix, water, bay leaf, fines herbs and beans. Simmer, covered,

about 1 hour to desired tenderness. Add tomato. Serve hot, sprinkled with cheese.

Makes 16 servings; 98 calories, 1 g fat and no cholesterol each.

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Mercury gives Sable more traditional styling



By Tom Strongman

It's hip to be square. Or at least in the case of the 2000 Mercury Sable, less round.

For 2000, Ford Motor Co. has jettisoned much of the oval look of its Sable and Taurus in favor of mainstream styling that appeals to "middle of the roaders" who see cars more as transportation and less as styling statements. The angular, upright style not only looks better but also improves trunk space.

Today we'll take a look at the Sable and save the Taurus for a future time.

Sable is available as a sedan and station wagon in GS, LS and LS Premium trim levels. Base sedan prices start at \$19,345 for the GS and go to \$21,795 for the LS Premium, which was the model I drove. The car used for this review was a pre-production unit and did not have an as-driven price sticker.

While the roof, windows and door panels remain the same, nearly every other piece of the body has been changed. A bigger, chrome-trimmed grill and bold headlights set off the front. The hood is taller, and that not only gives it greater visual presence, it also kicks air up over the windshield wipers for less noise at high

way speeds, according to Ford. Around back, the trunk lid is 3 inches taller. The opening is slightly wider and lift-over height has been reduced. Big tail lights sit squarely out at the end of the fenders to give the back a more substantial appearance.

Changes to the Sable are more than just skin deep. The base engine has been tweaked for more mid-range responsiveness, the suspension has been retuned for a softer ride and changes were made to the steering to improve on-center feel. I think the steering still feels rather numb, but the body sways less in turns.

The interior, and especially the instrument panel, have been reworked with a new shape and a leatherlike texture. No more ovals here, either. The integrated control panel for audio and temperature controls is a larger, rectangular unit that has its buttons arrayed in a more logical, but less artistic fashion.

Generous map pockets have been put back into the door panels, a clear oversight in the previous model. A clever adjustable cup holder has been integrated into the center console, and it will hold every size cup from tiny to gigantic. When you're not using it as a cup holder, it is a great space for sunglasses.

The floor-mounted gear lever in our test car was somewhat sticky to shift, but I suspect that was an anomaly because it was not from the standard production run. Along with the redesign, Ford added a substantial amount of new safety equipment. A computer system monitors the location of the seat, whether seatbelts are being used and the severity of the accident to determine proper deployment of the dual-stage air bags.

Short drivers will find this system helpful because Ford says it has the potential to reduce air bag-related injuries by determining whether, and how forcefully, it needs to trigger the air bags. In addition to the standard front and side air bags for front-seat passengers, seat belts have both pretensioners and force limiters to keep injuries at a minimum. The pretensioners tighten the seat belts in an accident, while the force limiters release the seat belts ever so slightly to help keep the belt from injuring the occupant's chest.

Another key ingredient in this equation is the fact that the Sable can be ordered with power-operated pedals that move up to 3 inches, so that short drivers don't have to sit so close to the steering wheel. This is the first time that Ford has made its movable pedals available in a car.

There are tethers for attaching child safety seats.

The standard engine is the 155-horse Vulcan 3.0-liter V-6, which has been tweaked to improve mid-range response while lowering noise and vibration. The Duratec 24-valve 3.0-liter V-6 has 200 horsepower and is 30 pounds lighter. It is optional in the Sable GS and LS and standard in the LS Premium package. This engine does not have the smoothness found in some of its imported competitors, but it performs adequately and gets decent fuel economy.

The trunk bulkhead has hooks so you can hang grocery sacks and keep your apples from rolling all over the trunk on the way home from the store. If you need to carry something long, the rear seat backs flip forward.

An emergency release is also located in the trunk. By modifying the Sable's styling and tweaking the suspension, Ford has given it a better chance against its classmates in one of the most competitive segments in the business.

The base price of the Sable LS Premium is \$21,795. An as-driven price was not available for the test vehicle.

The warranty is for three years or 36,000 miles.

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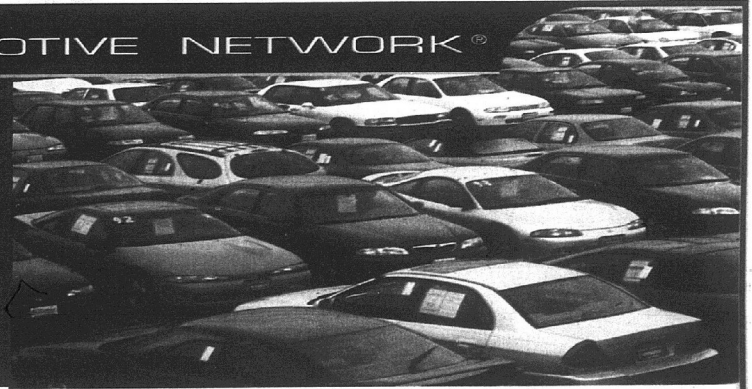
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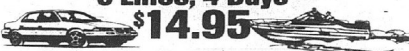
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Archer Mortgage (314)988-1500	7.125 2 pts.	6.75 2 pts.	7.625 1 pt.	N/A	6.125 1 pt.	Rates @ 3 mo. low! 100% Purchase or Ref! www.archermortgage.com	Mid America Mortgage Services (612) 21-1166 MO (314) 434-6227	7.875	7.625	8.125	8.250	6.875	3/1 ARM 7.250 5/1 ARM 7.625	
Bank of America (314) 468-0100	7.75 + .75 pts.	7.375 + .75pts.	8.0 + .875 pts.	8.0 + 1.125 pts.	6.625 + 1 pt. Margin 2.55	100% Financing Available (Income Restrictions) Ask about home loan value arms.	MidRivers Mortgage, Inc. (812) 288-6933 (618) 692-4260	7.75	7.5	8.125	8.0	6.625	8.625	8.625
Comprehensive Mortgage Services, L.L.C. (214) 891-5080	7.75	7.375	8.125	Call Us	7.25	Low Closing Costs, Competitive Rates	The Mortgage Source (314) 875-6246 (888) 560-177	7.625 1 pt.	7.375 1 pt.	8.00 1 pt.	N/A	6.125 1 pt.	6.725	0 Point/No Closing Costs Available Bad Credit Specialists www.mortgage-free.com
Eagle Bank (314) 282-9644	7.75	7.5	8	7.875	6.375	0 Costs on 90 Refin. No PMI on 90 & 95% Loans								

*Member of Mortgage Bankers Association of St. Louis. Member of the Missouri Assoc. Of Mgt. Professionals & the Natl. Assoc. Of Mgt. Brokers. Members pledge to maintain acceptable mortgage lending standards & practices to best serve the interest of consumers through voluntary policy of self regulation. Rates assume a 45 day rate & point lock. They may be closing costs involved when conducting a real estate transaction, closing costs may vary by lender. Points include origination & discount fee. Rates subject to change. The above rates are for comparative purposes only & should not solely be used in determining the proper financing method. The above rates are available with minimum down payment or equity of at least 20%. The value of the subject property. The rates for the 30 & 15 year fixed conforming loans & 1 yr. ARM's are based on \$100,000 loan amounts. The fixed FHA rate is based on a \$75,000 loan amount. The initial nominal rate shown for all the ARM's, including 1 yr., 3/1, 5/1, 7/1, 10/1 are discounted rates & the rate may increase after conversion. ARM's (ARM/50/INFL). This is not an advertisement for credit as defined by paragraph 236.24 regulation Z.

To Advertise in this special section call 821-1444

2620 APARTMENTS/ FLATS UNFURNISHED

2648 GRAND Apartment located by W. Adams. 1st floor. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, 1 kitchen, 1 living room, 1 dining room, 1 patio, 1 carport. \$500/mo plus deposit. Call (618) 731-1512.

LARGE 2 BR Apartment. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 kitchen, 1 living room, 1 dining room, 1 patio, 1 carport. \$500/mo plus deposit. Call (618) 731-1512.

LARGE 3 BR Apartment. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 kitchen, 1 living room, 1 dining room, 1 patio, 1 carport. \$500/mo plus deposit. Call (618) 731-1512.

ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT Water, trash & sewer furnished. No pets. \$325 plus deposit. Call 452-0925.

RENTAL INFORMATION Houses And Apartments. **HARTMANN REALTORS** Rental Hotline 345-7771.

4 ROOMS, BATH, Kitchen & 1st floor (618) 731-1512.

2645 CONDOS/TOWNHOUSES FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 bath, w/o (618) 731-1512.

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NEW 2 BEDROOM (618) 731-1512.

PARKVIEW RIDGE (618) 731-1512.

Call 692-6366.

2645 CONDOS/ TOWNHOUSES FOR RENT

VIEW OF THE ARCH 1/2 bath in level 1/2 bath w/d. \$525/mo. Call (618) 731-1512.

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2650 DUPLEXES FOR RENT

1 BDRM, good location, No (618) 731-1512.

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2660 HOUSES FOR RENT

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS (618) 731-1512.

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2 BEDROOM house with de (618) 731-1512.

3 BEDROOM (618) 731-1512.

2 BR HOUSE 2011 W. 2ND (618) 731-1512.

2 BR, nice apartment, car (618) 731-1512.

HOUSE FOR rent 3 bedrooms (618) 731-1512.

NICE, SMALL 2 BR house (618) 731-1512.

2 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 bath, w/o (618) 731-1512.

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Large Newly Decorated 2 b.d. (618) 731-1512.

2 BR HOUSE 2011 W. 2ND (618) 731-1512.

2 BR, nice apartment, car (618) 731-1512.

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2660 HOUSES FOR RENT

2 ROOM HOUSE, 3 Bed room (618) 731-1512.

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Landmark Realty, Inc.

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From All of us at Landmark Realty Happy Thanksgiving.

Country Living Charming brick home with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 kitchen, 1 living room, 1 dining room, 1 patio, 1 carport. \$500/mo plus deposit. Call (618) 731-1512.

Beautiful Brick home features 4 BR, 2 baths, sitting room, island kitchen, built in appliances, full basement, 2 car garage, nice landscaped lot. \$169,900. LG154

STYLE AND GRACE This home has it. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 1 kitchen, 1 living room, 1 dining room, 1 patio, 1 carport. \$500/mo plus deposit. Call (618) 731-1512.

ALOTTA HOME FOR A LOW PRICE (618) 731-1512.

NEW LISTING! Why pay rent when you can own for less! This charming 2 BR home with living room, dining room, utility room, full basement and fenced yard is priced for less! Call now! This one won't last! LG301

BEAUTIFUL 2 STORY BRICK HOME! Full lot, unique wood work 2 BR, formal living, breakfast room, basement, fenced yard. Offered at \$69,900. LG756

BE YOUR OWN LANDLORD! Charming 2 family unit each has 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 kitchen, 1 living room, 1 dining room, 1 patio, 1 carport. \$500/mo plus deposit. Call (618) 731-1512.

CALL THE MOVIES NOW! This 2 BR home with carpet, full basement, full kitchen, full bathroom, full living room, full dining room, full patio, full carport. \$500/mo plus deposit. Call (618) 731-1512.

876-7510
800-515-8401
288-7401

RESIDENTIAL

LAUGH ALL THE WAY TO THE BANK! Two homes on one lot equals positive cash flow opportunity or maybe you just want help with the payments. Either way you can't go wrong on this 2 BR home with full basement, off street parking, and plenty of updates. Priced right at under \$50,000.

100 GOOD TO BE TRUE! You get two bedrooms, large kitchen, fenced yard, beautiful fireplace, and a two car detached garage. All of this for a low \$101,900. Call now or someone else will be too late! LG902

LOOPY-TREED Of trying to find the perfect home? Come by and see this 3 BR home with 2 full bathrooms, 2 car garage and full dry basement. Great central deck, storage space galore, chute, spacious rooms, large lot, and much more. These are the ones that never last! \$84,500

CR442-ADORABLE HOME! This cute 4 BR home is ready for your personal touch. Updated interior, full kitchen, water heater and A/C. Fenced yard, very nice patio, full basement, full laundry room, full bathroom, full living room, full dining room, full patio, full carport. \$110,000. LG420

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THE VIEW! From this very well maintained 4 BR home with 2 full bathrooms, 2 car garage, full basement, full living room, full dining room, full patio, full carport. \$110,000. LG420

ARE YOU LOOKING TO HAVE A HOME THAT IS LAY OUT PERFECT? This beautiful home has 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 kitchen, 1 living room, 1 dining room, 1 patio, 1 carport. \$500/mo plus deposit. Call (618) 731-1512.

IS IT SPACE YOU WANT? This home offers 4 BR, large great room, family room, living room, breakfast room, dining room, Remodeled kitchen and bath, new 30 yr roof in '95. Too many extras to mention \$113,900. LG492

NICE LEVEL LOT ON EDGE OF TOWN! Not in Granite City but could easily be. 3 BR, 2 bath, 1 kitchen, 1 living room, 1 dining room, 1 patio, 1 carport. \$500/mo plus deposit. Call (618) 731-1512.

BEAUTIFUL HOME SITES IN NOTTINGHAM LAKES! All editing, landscaping, and more. Call for info. LG152 & 153

BIG PRICE REDUCTIONS! Beautiful wooded home in Dunlap Lake has a wonderful view! See bring your plans and build your dream home here! Offered at \$21,900. LG203

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618-876-5050

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

BACK ON THE MARKET

HOME ONLY THREE YEARS OLD! This beautiful home was completely rebuilt from the ground up 3 years ago. Still looks new, 3 BR, dining room, above ground pool, fully fenced yard. Oak cabinets, dishwasher, Madison property all for \$52,900! Call for more details! CR8122

FEATURED HOMES

COZY COTTAGE JUST WAITING FOR A NEW FAMILY! 2 bedroom home with large eat-in kitchen, A/C, furnace and vinyl siding new in '96. Full basement, partially finished with 2 car attached garage with workshop. Ready to move in! Call for info. LG152 & 153

QUIET COUNTRY LIVING ON OVER 1 1/2 ACRES 3 bedroom brick ranch on the outskirts of town. Full basement, partially finished with 2 car attached garage with workshop. Ready to move in! Call for info. LG152 & 153

ONLY \$54,000! BRICK RANCH IN GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD 3 bedroom/2 bath home with a fully fenced yard. Maryville School District. Needs a little TLC! Hurry and call for details! CR2451

LARGE HOME GREAT FOR A BIGGER FAMILY! 4 bedrooms, New roof. Detached garage/workshop. Fenced yard. HOME WARRANTY! All this for only \$38,000, call now this won't last long! CR2211

NICE 3 BEDROOM HOME CLOSE TO PARK & SCHOOLS. This house was completely gutted and is approximately 6 years old. Newer roof, windows, c/a, furnace, carpet, & baths. Very nice! Much better than renting. CR2427.

LARGE BRICK COMMERCIAL BUILDING ON VERY BUSY STREET. Situated on corner lot! Potential retail/showroom/office area, approx. 900 sq. ft. plus approximately 3000 sq. ft. plus floor 3/4 basement with full ceiling. Plus 2 operating on 2nd floor. This property will go fast! Don't wait, call now! CR2881

COMMERCIAL BUILDING FOR SALE! High traffic area. Main part of town. Building features: new windows, new wiring, beautifully landscaped, the first floor is the display area. Second floor is also finished. Basement is used for work area. CR1992

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